

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

California



SYLMAR NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

PRESIDENT: Ann Job

VICE PRESIDENTS:

Administration: Diane Valencia

Communications: Kathy Grubert

TREASURER: Patricia Rau

PUBLIC RELATIONS: Maria Silva

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Minutes of the SYLMAR NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL GENERAL BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, March 26, 2015

Concordia Jr /Sr High School, 13507 Eldridge Avenue, Sylmar, CA 91342

All Minutes are a summary, not a transcript, of what was said at a meeting. The only two exceptions to this are the Motions and quotes. Minutes are not a comprehensive record of what was said about an issue or project. (meeting order in parentheses)

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

President Ann Job called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m. Carlos Gonzalez led the Pledge of Allegiance

2. Roll Call – Roll Call was taken by Ann Job. The Sylmar Neighborhood Council quorum is 11.

9 of the 19 Board Members were present at the beginning of the Meeting: Peggy Courtney, Lucille Floresta, Carlos Gonzalez, Kathy Grubert, Ann Job, Patricia Rau, Brenda Resendis, Chris Shows, and Diane Valencia.

3 arrived later: Roy Smith, Kathy Bloom and Cheri Blose resulting in 12 board members present..

7 Board Members were absent: Laurie Fadness, Carlos Lara, Derek Martin, Jackie Mata, Chardell Powell, Christian Rubalcava, and Maria Silva.

19 of the 21 Board Seats were filled. Vacant Board Seats: one At Large and one Retail.

18 stakeholders and guests signed in. This does not included officers Menchaca and Lonergan, Bill Larson of the City Attorney Office, nor Melvin Canas of Department of Neighborhood Empowerment.

3. Housekeeping, Speaker Cards and Timekeeper – Diane Valencia explained this.

4. Welcome and Announcements by Board Meeting facility Host.

Meeting Host Peggy Courtney of Concordia Jr/Sr High School welcomed everyone.

In the absence of a quorum but with assurance that board members were en route, the meeting proceeded with items not requiring a vote. Therefore, the order of items addressed was altered.

6. Public Official and Community Representative announcements and presentations. (meeting order 5)

1) Abigail Moreno from Councilmember Fuentes' office, reported: that the Foothills Trails Inauguration was held on Mar 14. She announced that on April 25th Councilmember Fuentes and Mayor Garcetti will hold a tree planting event in Sylmar for Arbor Day. She encouraged everyone to turn out.

2) Julio Anleu, representing Monica Ratliff - LAUSD School Board Member reported: that Board Member Ratliff met with Sylmar parents at Sylmar High School. He also announced the Job Fair being held on May 8. Flyers on the table.

3) Alonzo Menchaca, Senior Lead Officer for the LAPD Mission Division, reported that crime is a bit up now in Sylmar, compared to year-to-date with last year. Perhaps that is because he asked at the last meeting for stakeholders to call 911 when they see something that should be reported. Sylmar's crime is more property-type crimes. Mission Division has the lowest crime in the City of Los Angeles. Senior Lead Officer Lonergan was also present.

Board Member Roy Smith arrived at this time (6:53), making 10 Board Members present, still short of a quorum.

7. Committee Reports: (meeting order 6)

Executive Committee: Diane Valencia reported that there was no quorum for the Executive Committee meeting.

However, a Boy Scout working on his Eagle Scout badge and his mother came to the meeting and interviewed Diane

and Ann, who were in attendance. We had a wonderful conversation with Scout, Brett Woodward. She reminded the board members of the need to either sign the Code of Conduct or view the video on the DONE website.

Budget Committee: Patricia Rau reported that the Budget Committee met on March 16 for Cheri Blöse to present the application for Make Your Horse Count. The Committee approved the application.

Outreach Committee: Maria Silva was absent, so no report.

Equestrian Committee: Cheri Blöse had not yet arrived, so no report.

Bylaws Committee: Roy Smith deferred to item # 20, but thanked his committee members for their hard work over such a long period of time.

Planning & Land Use Committee: Cheri Blöse had not yet arrived, so no report.

Sediment Placement Ad Hoc Committee: Kathy Grubert reported that the LA County Department of Public Works had held the first Scoping Meetings on Wednesday, and urged everyone to attend the last meeting Scoping Meeting at Mission College on Saturday (3/28). She also announced the SNC Town Hall to be held on Wednesday, April 1.

Government Affairs & Public Safety Committee: Christian Rubalcava was absent, so no report.

Emergency Preparedness & Public Safety Committee: Chardell Powell was absent, so no report. At this time the President acknowledge Bill Hopkins, who has offered to help us with the formation of this committee.

Underserved Stakeholders Committee: Peggy Courtney reported that the committee did not meet in March, but will meet in April. The results of the Homeless Count are not yet available.

8. Reports by Liaisons to the City (meeting order 7)

Budget Representatives – Patti Rau reported that the Budget Advocates presented the Mayor with a white paper. The white paper can be downloaded from the Budget Committee’s page on the SNC website.

Department of Public Works Liaison – Ann Job reported talking with President Kevin James at the VANC Mixer.

Legal / City Attorney – Diane Valencia said she had nothing to report.

9. Public Comment on Non-Agendized Items within the Board’s subject matter jurisdiction: (meeting order 8)

1) Bill Larsen – from the City Attorney’s office commented on half-way houses in Sylmar.

2) Sherry Lincoln reported events being held in the community.

3) Bill Hopkins of Granada Hills NC spoke of the 8th Annual Emergency Preparedness Fair in October.

4) David Levin took two public comments. Prior to making his comments, he returned the SNC recorder telling us that the recorder was broken. Rather than making a comment, he asked questions to which he knew the board could respond; therefore, they were rhetorical questions. He suggested that since there is no longer a ‘secretary’ the motion to reconsider item 23 of the January 22, 2015, was out of order and should be invalidated.

5) a stakeholder threatened a grievance against the board, based on the reconsideration (during its February 26th GBM) of the January 22, 2015, agenda Item 23.

6) Jose Castillo request the board to rescind its decision made at the February GBM regarding the reconsideration of the January 22, 2015, agenda Item 23 regarding the 21 Small Lots on Hubbard.

19. Regarding possibly purchasing a new PA system, for which we have budgeted \$3,500.00. (meeting order 9)

Diane Valencia said that she wanted to begin the discussion and invite comments. She has begun the search of vendors and to begin the discussion and invite comment. She has received one quote from Astro, and will get two more quotes to present to the board next month.

Still having no quorum, Ann Job asked Lucille to tell her story of how she was honored as a neighborhood council member during her recent trip back to the Philippines. At the VANC Mixer the General Manager of the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, Grayce Liu, heard Lucille’s story. Grayce gave Lucille a ‘shout out’ in her weekly message the next day.

13. RECESS – Was called, still without a quorum. (meeting order 10)

During recess Board Member Kathy Bloom arrived at 7:54, making 11 Board Members present, therefore a quorum.

5. MOTION (by Brenda Resendis, seconded by Peggy Courtney): The Sylmar Neighborhood Council approved the Minutes of its February 26, 2015 General Board Meeting as written. (meeting order 11)

DISCUSSION was conducted.

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION by Ann Job without objection.

MOTION PASSED with of the 11 board members present, 10 in favor: Bloom, Courtney, Floresta, Gonzalez, Grubert, Rau, Resendis, Shows, Valencia, and Job.

1 Abstained: Roy Smith, not having had a chance to review the minutes.

10. President Ann Job asked for the board to approve her appointment of Dennis Orellana as Retail Representative.

Then Dennis Orellana addressed the board and stakeholders. (meeting order 12)

MOTION (by Diane Valencia, seconded by Peggy Courtney): The Sylmar Neighborhood Council approved the appointment of Dennis Orellana as Retail Representative.

DISCUSSION was conducted, during which Roy Smith thanked him for being willing to serve.

MOTION to CALL FOR THE VOTE by Roy Smith without objection.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by vote of the 11 board members present: Bloom, Courtney, Floresta, Gonzalez, Grubert, Rau, Resendis, Shows, Smith, Valencia, and Job.

11. President Ann Job asked for the board to approve her appointment of Peter Postlmayr as At-Large Representative.

Then Peter Postlmayr addressed the board and stakeholders. (meeting order 13)

MOTION (by Roy Smith, seconded by Diane Valencia): The Sylmar Neighborhood Council approved the appointment of Peter Postlmayr as At-Large Representative.

DISCUSSION was conducted.

MOTION to CALL FOR THE VOTE by Peggy Courtney without objection.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by vote of the 11 board members present: Bloom, Courtney, Floresta, Gonzalez, Grubert, Rau, Resendis, Shows, Smith, Valencia, and Job.

12. Councilmember Fuentes was unable to attend due to illness. After making a few comments on the Councilmember's behalf, **Abigail Moreno swore in the newly appointed Directors.** (meeting order 14)

Dennis Orellana and Peter Postlmayr took their seats on the board.

With the seating of Orellana and Postlmayr, 13 Board Members present; and there are now no vacancies on the board.

16. **MOTION** (by Diane Valencia, seconded by Kathy Bloom) to approve Sylmar Neighborhood Council monthly expenditure report (MER) for March, 2015. (meeting order 15)

DISCUSSION – there was none.

MOTION to CALL FOR THE VOTE by Roy Smith without objection.

MOTION PASSED by vote of the 13 board members present, 11 voted yes: Bloom, Courtney, Floresta, Gonzalez, Grubert, Rau, Resendis, Shows, Smith, Valencia, and Job. 0 against.

2 abstained: the two newly seated members, Peter Postlmayr and Dennis Orellana

17. **Treasurer's Report** – Treasurer Patricia Rau made the report. (meeting order 16)

MOTION (by Diane Valencia, seconded by Kathy Grubert): The Sylmar Neighborhood Council approved to accept the Treasurer's report as submitted.

DISCUSSION was conducted. To stakeholder Les Aisenman's question, Patricia Rau stated that the total amount left to be \$25,467.13.

MOTION to CALL FOR THE VOTE by Roy Smith without objection.

MOTION PASSED by vote of the 13 board members present, 11 voted yes: Bloom, Courtney, Floresta, Gonzalez, Grubert, Rau, Resendis, Shows, Smith, Valencia, and Job. 0 against.

2 abstained: the two newly seated members, Peter Postlmayr and Dennis Orellana

18. **FUNDING MOTION** (by Diane Valencia, seconded by Patricia Rau): The Sylmar Neighborhood Council approves moving \$2,000.00 from Category 200 – Outreach. a Line Item Earmarked (EAR) and reallocate it to Equestrian Outreach Line (EQU). (meeting order 17)

DISCUSSION: the motion was discussed.

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION by Ann Job without objection.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the 13 eligible voters present with 10 in favor (Bloom, Courtney, Floresta, Gonzalez, Grubert, Rau, Resendis, Shows, Valencia and Job);
1 opposed: Smith
2 abstained: the two newly seated members, Postlmayr and Orellana

At this time Board Member Cheri Blose arrived at 8:15 making 14 Board Members present.

- 14. Albert Melena requested that the Board** write a letter supporting the San Fernando Valley Partnership To Stop Underage Drinking's Program Further he asked the board adopt the program and help to encourage all local off site alcohol vendors in Sylmar to implement 'best practices' that help prevent underage drinking. (meeting order 18)

MOTION (by Cheri Blose, seconded by Roy Smith)

DISCUSSION was conducted. Cheri Blose has the draft letter and will supply it at the next meeting.

MOTION to CALL FOR THE VOTE by Cheri Blose without objection.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by vote of the 14 board members present: Blose, Bloom, Courtney, Floresta, Gonzalez, Grubert, Orellana, Postlmayr, Rau, Resendis, Shows, Smith and Valencia, and Job.

- 15. Recommendation by the Planning & Land Use Committee** that the Board accept the proposed project at 13287 Ralston Avenue in the Sylmar Community for a preliminary parcel map. The owner is looking to split the existing lot, currently improved with an office building fronting on Ralston Avenue and a warehouse building at the rear of the lot, into two separate lots. The site is in an industrial area, and there would be no change in use of either building at this time. Sara Houghton, of Rosenheim & Associates, Inc., was available for questions. (meeting order 19)

MOTION (by Cheri Blose, seconded by Patti)

DISCUSSION was conducted. Sara Houghton, of Rosenheim & Associates, answered questions, indicating that it was an internal business issue. It will be deeded so that one portion could not be sold off without the other.

MOTION to CALL FOR THE VOTE by Patricia Rau without objection.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by vote of the 14 board members present: Bloom, Blose, Courtney, Floresta, Gonzalez, Grubert, Orellana, Postlmayr, Rau, Resendis, Shows, Smith, Valencia, and Job.

- 20. Recommendation by the Bylaws Committee** that the Board approve the Sylmar Neighborhood Council Bylaws as written and submitted to the Board by the Bylaws Committee. (meeting order 20, back on track)

MOTION (by Roy Smith, seconded by Kathy Bloom)

DISCUSSION: Again Roy Smith thanked everyone for their work on the Committee. Diane Valencia noted that over 100 changes were made to over 20 pages of the document.

MOTION to CALL FOR THE VOTE by Patricia Rau without objection.

MOTION PASSED by vote of the 14 board members present, 12 voted for: Bloom, Blose, Courtney, Floresta, Gonzalez, Grubert, Rau, Resendis, Shows, Smith, Valencia, and Job.

0 against

2 abstained: the two newly seated members, Orellana and Postlmayr

- 21. President Ann Job asked for the board** to approve her appointment of Peter Postlmayr as Chair of the Planning & Land Use Committee. Before doing so, she thanked Cheri Blose for serving so ably as Interim-Chair.

Seeing no questions, Discussion was closed and Patricia Rau called the roll.

The Appointment PASSED by vote of the 14 board members present, 12 voted for: Bloom, Blose, Courtney, Floresta, Gonzalez, Grubert, Rau, Resendis, Shows, Smith, Valencia, and Job.

0 against

2 abstained: the two newly seated members, Orellana and Postlmayr

- 22. Board Member Laurie Fadness, had asked for this agenda item:** that the Board consider creating a Green Representative seat on the Sylmar Neighborhood Council. Due to her completing her CERT Training, Ms. Fadness was unable to attend the meeting.

MOTION (by Diane Valencia, seconded by Roy Smith) to Table the Item, not to be revisited unless and until Ms. Fadness requests that it be put on a later agenda.

Seeing no questions, Discussion was closed and Patricia Rau called the roll.

The MOTION TO TABLE PASSED unanimously by vote of the 14 board members present: Bloom, Blöse, Courtney, Floresta, Gonzalez, Grubert, Orellana, Postlmayr, Rau, Resendis, Shows, Smith, Valencia, and Job

23. Board Member Community Announcements:

- 1) Kathy Grubert reminded the board of the upcoming Town Hall and asked for help in setting up and breaking down the room for the Town Hall. And she thanked Peggy Courtney for making this possible.
- 2) Cheri Blöse reported on the May 16th “Make Your Horse Count” even and the need for volunteers.
- 3) Peggy Courtney reported on the Immigration Summit sponsored by Congressman Cardenas. She indicated that information in Spanish was available on the table regarding pro-bono legal advice for people needing immigration assistance. She asked us to be aware that there are disreputable people preying on the many seeking assistance.
- 4) Carlos Gonzalez explained that he had to miss the last two SNC meetings, because in his new position at Mission College as Dean of Success, he has been looking at completion rates and has met with 45 meeting high school counselors so far.
- 5) Because Derek Martin could not be at tonight’s meeting, Carlos Gonzalez read the email he sent. The Boy Basketball team won back-to-back city championships. The Boys Soccer won the city championship and went on to play in the state regional games. Carlos said, “Go Spartans.” We should be proud when our kids win championships.

24. Board Member Comments

- 1) Diane Valencia asked the new board members to remain a bit longer after the meeting for her to tell them of the next steps they need to take.
- 2) Roy Smith complained about the length of the new Ethics Training session. That it does not have audio to accompany the text for the visually impaired, as the previous Ethics Training did.

25. Future Agenda item suggestions from public and Board members. – there were none.

26. Closing Remarks, Acknowledgements, and Adjournment:

The next General Board meeting will be on April 23, 2015 at Sylmar High School.

President Ann Job adjourned the meeting at 8:51 P.M.

Minutes by the Executive Committee