



Officers
President: Tammy Flores
Vice President of Administration: Diane Valencia
Vice President of Communications: Maria Silva
Treasurer: Alex Guerrero
Public Relations Coordinator: David M. Rodriguez

Sylmar Neighborhood Council
GENERAL BOARD MEETING - MINUTES
Thursday, May 26, 2016 - 6:30 PM
Church of the Foothills
13425 Glenoaks Blvd., Sylmar, CA 91342

Sylmar Neighborhood Council General Board Minutes are a summary, not an exact, word-for-word transcript of what was said at the Meeting. The Minutes are not, nor were they ever meant to be, a comprehensive record of what was said about a particular issue or project.

- 6:30 – 6:32 p.m. 1. **Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance.** The meeting was called to order at 6:31 by President Tammy Flores and the Pledge of Allegiance recited by all.
- 6:32 – 6:34 p.m. 2. **Roll Call** – President Flores called roll. Present were Wilson Bell, Kathy Bloom, Cheri Blose, Hector Cabrera, Kurt Cabrera-Miller, Lucille Floresta, Alex Guerrero, Gregory Hoerner, Francis Hughes, John Pacheco, Peter Postlmayr, David Rodriguez, Diana Rodriguez, Maria Silva, and Diane Valencia. Ann Job arrived at 7:20 p.m.; Emily Rubalcava at 7:29 p.m.; and Derek Martin at 7:30 p.m. Kathy Grubert and Christian Rubalcava were absent.
- 6:34 – 6:37 p.m. 3. **Housekeeping, Speaker Cards, Meeting Rules, and Timekeeper.** President Flores and Diane Valencia spoke on Housekeeping and Code of Conduct. As there were no Speaker Cards, those wanting to speak were instructed to raise their hands. David Rodriguez served as timekeeper.
- 6:37 – 6:39 p.m. 4. **Welcome and Announcements** by Board Meeting facility host, Barbara Winslow. Ms. Winslow welcomed everyone, and spoke about the programs and services offered by Church of the Foothills.
- 6:39 – 6:59 p.m. 5. **Public Official and Community Representative Announcements & Presentations.** **LAPD SLO Alex Giron** updated the community on the increase of violent crime and lessening of property crime in the area. **President Jesse Martinez** of the Mission Hills Neighborhood Council was present to give Certificates of Appreciation to David Rodriguez and Maria Silva for work on the 29th congressional district election forum. **LAUSD Board Member Monica Ratlif** and **Bill Ulmer of the Office of Assemblywoman Patty Lopez** were present to recognize the work of Sylmar High School Magnet Coordinator Debbie Steinert, teachers Barbara Lindsay, Bruce Towar, Robert Cohen, and Soheil Mashhoud. Also present were Superintendent Byron Maltez, Administrator of Instruction Jack Bagwell, Principal James Lee (Sylmar High), Principal Maria Herrera (Sylmar Biotech Academy), and Principal Tina Gandera (Dyer Elementary), as well as alumni, current students, and parents. **Ms. Ratcliff** also announced two public forums for finalists of the NE Superintendent position—one at Pacoima Middle School on June 11 from 10:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m., and one at Van Nuys High School on June 13 from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m.
- 6:59 – 7:09 p.m. 6. **Public Comment.** **Eugene Hernandez** spoke of the need for stakeholders to contact LA Public Works regarding the condition of Sylmar sidewalks. **Marty Marshall** spoke on need for Sylmar stakeholders to understand the U.S. Constitution, and asked for a report on privacy issue regarding the recent SNC election. **Amanda Bloom**, Animal Services liaison, requested a standing committee on animals issues. **David Levin** complained about the election of Tammy Flores as SNC President. **Benny Bernal** congratulated the new Board and mentioned his concerns over the recent fighting at Sylmar High School. **David Kane** announced the Kids Fitness Challenge to be held September 3rd and 4th. **Jason Akron** complained about the train horn noise and proposed quiet zones. **Bart Reed** also spoke on the train horn noise. **Joe Shammass** spoke about his candidacy for Congress. **Nancy Woodruff** spoke on her candidacy for District 7 Councilmember. **Kevin Suscavage** talked about his candidacy for the State Assembly. **Jonathan McCoy** offered technical support to the Board. And **Nina Royal** spoke about her paper, the Northeast Valley Reporter.

Unfinished Business

- 7:09 – 7:12 p.m. 7. **Approval of Minutes of the January 28, 2016, General Board Meeting.** 1st by Peter Postlymyer, 2^{nc} by Kathy Bloom. 11 Yes, 0 No, 3 Abstentions, and 7 Absent.
- 7:12 – 7:15 p.m. 8. **Approval of Minutes of the March 24, 2016, General Board Meeting.** 1st by Peter Postlymyer, 2^{nc} by Diane Valencia. 7 Yes, 0 No, 9 Abstentions, and 5 Absent.
- Ann Job arrived at 7:20 p.m.*
- 7:15 – 7:18 p.m. 9. **Approval of the March Monthly Expenditure Report (MER).** 1st by Peter Postlmayr, 2^{nc} by Kathy Bloom. Voting Yes – Kathy Bloom, Cheri Blose, Kurt Cabrera-Miller, Lucille Floresta, Alex Guerrero, Ann Job, Peter Postlmyer, Maria Silva and Diane Valencia. 0 No vote. Wilson Bell, Hector Cabrera, Gregory Hoerner, Francis Hughes, John Pacheco, David Rodriguez, Diana Rodriguez and Tammy Flores abstained. Kathy Grubert, Derek Martin, Christian Rubalcava and Emily Rubalcava were absent.
- 7:18 – 7:20 p.m. 10. **Request to form an Ad Hoc Committee focused on illegal vending, including possible implementation of a pilot program.** Bonnie Bernard requested that this item be agendized, but, at this time, would like this item to be withdrawn.
- 7:20 – 7:22 p.m. 11. **Eugene Hernandez** requested that the Board form a Committee to address sidewalk repairs in Sylmar. He suggested the Board move aggressively in letting the City Council and Mayor Garcetti know of the conditions in Sylmar. As Ad Hoc committees have yet to be formed, this item will be taken up at that time.

Emily Rubalcava arrive at 7:29 p.m.

Derek Martin arrived at 7:30 p.m..

New Business

- 7:22 – 7:32 p.m. 12. **Committee Reports (10)**
Executive Committee – no report.
Budget Committee – Alex Guerrero invited Board members and stakeholders to join his committee.
Bylaws Committee – Diane Valencia asked interested individual to contact her.
Outreach Committee – David M. Rodriguez spoke of the May 17th meeting that attracted 19 attendants. The meeting focused on clean-ups, mixers, a town hall meeting and printed materials. Future Outreach Committee meetings will be held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month with location to be announced.
Planning & Land Use Committee – Peter Postlmayr named to his committee Cheri Blose, George Ortega, Patty Hug, and Lucille Floresta. He announced that Planning and Land Use would meet would be the 2nd Wednesday each month, location to be announced. Mr. Postlmayr said that in the future he would like to have the information regarding the meeting to be listed on the website.
Equestrian Committee – Cheri Blose reported on the May 15th Make Your Horse Count event. She estimated 700 – 800 in attendance, with more than 100 horses registered.
- 7:32 – 7:42 p.m. 13. **Certificates of Recognition** for Sylmar High School Magnet Faculty. **LAUSD Board Member Monica Ratlif and Bill Ulmer of the Office of Assemblywoman Patty Lopez** were present to recognize the work of Sylmar High School Magnet Coordinator Debbie Steinert, teachers Barbara Lindsay, Bruce Towar, Robert Cohen, and Soheil Mashhoud. Also present were Superintendent Byron Maltez, Administrator of Instruction Jack Bagwell, Principal James Lee (Sylmar High), Principal Maria Herrera (Sylmar Biotech Academy), and Principal Tina Gandra (Dyer Elementary), as well as alumni, current students, and parents.
- 7:42 – 7:45 p.m. 14. **Approval of Minutes of the April 28, 2016, General Board Meeting.** 1st by David Rodriguez; 2nd by John Pacheco. Vote: 18 Yes, 0 No and 3 Absent.
- 7:45 – 7:48 p.m. 15. **Approval of Minutes of the May 7, 2016, Special Board Meeting.** 1st by John Pacheco; 2nd by Wilson Bell. With a correction to date – May 6th not May 7th – the motion passed with a vote of 15 Yes, 0 No, 4 Abstentions, and 2 Absent.
- 7:48 – 7:53 p.m. 16. **Approval of splitting the existing lot at 15191 Bledsoe Street** – Johanson Dielectrics, Inc. (AA-2016-907-PMLA and ENV-2016-908-CE), currently improved with a building fronting on Bledsoe Street and a building at the rear of the lot, into two separate lots. The site is in an industrial area, and the owner reports there would be no change in use of either building at this time. PLUC at their May 11, 2016, meeting unanimously approved this request. Peter Postlmayr expressed the approval of the Land Use Committee. Sarah Houghton and Justin Greene explained that the Bureau of Engineering had added the need of a dedication after the Committee meeting and would like a vote of the Board without the dedication. They stated that the dedication would cause a loss of parking spaces and they plan on fighting it. 1st by John Pacheco, as written; 2nd by Derek Martin. 13 Yes, 0 No, 6 Abstentions, and 2 Absent.

Another vote was taken for an amended motion in support of Sarah Houghton and Justin Greene. 1st by John Pacheco; 2nd by Derek Martin. 17 Yes, 0 No, 2 Abstentions, and 2 Absent.

7:53 – 8:03 p.m. 17.

Recess (10)

8:03 – 8:06 p.m. 18.

Treasurer's Report was given by Alex Guerrero. He said he would combine items 18 and 19.

8:06 – 8:16 p.m. 19.

Approval to move and re-allocate \$11,260.51 in funds from the following accounts:

\$ 3,391.29 from FAC – Facilities Related and Space Rental, \$ 633.62 from OFF – Office Equipment and Supplies, \$ 400.00 from OUC – Outreach Committee Expenses, \$ 373.75 from TAC – Staffing and Temporary Help, \$ 1,024.63 from EVE – Outreach Events/Food and Refreshments, \$ 195.09 from MEE – Meeting Expense, \$ 500.00 from NEW – Newsletter Expense, \$ 206.70 from WEB – Website Maintenance/Enhancement/Creation, \$ 1,000.00 from CIP – Community Improvement Projects, \$ 1,200.00 from NPG – Neighborhood Purpose Grants, and \$ 2,335.43 from ELE – Elections.

The total amount to be moved to other line items is as follows:

\$ 250.00 to EDU – Training and Board Retreat, \$ 2,889.91 to MIS – Miscellaneous Expense, \$ 76.20 to POS – Postage, \$ 935.00 to TRL – Translation and Transcription, \$ 243.72 to ADV – Advertising, and \$ 2,800.00 to EQU – Equestrian Committee. \$ 7,194.83. This will bring all balances to zero.

The remaining balance of \$4,065.68 is to be reallocated as follows: an additional \$1,000.00 to EVE – Outreach Events/Food and Refreshments, an additional \$900.00 ADV – Advertising and an additional \$2,165.68 to MIS – Miscellaneous. 1st by Diane Valencia; 2nd by Wilson Bell. Voting Yes, Wilson Bell, Kathy Bloom, Cheri Blose, Hector Cabrera, Kurt Cabrera-Miller, Lucille Floresta, Alex Guerrero, Gregory Hoerner, Francis Hughes, Ann Job, Derek Martin, John Pacheco, Peter Postlmayr, David Rodriguez, Diana Rodriguez, Maria Silva and Diane Valencia. Voting No 0, Abstaining, Tammy Flores; Kathy Grubert and Christian Rubalcava, Absent; and Emily Rubalcava, Ineligible.

8:16 – 8:21 p.m. 20.

Approval to revised budget for Fiscal Year 2015-2016, including all suggested movement and reallocations of funds as recommended by the Budget Committee, presented by Alex Guerrero. 1st by Wilson Bell; 2nd by Diane Valencia. Voting Yes - Wilson Bell, Kathy Bloom, Cheri Blose, Hector Cabrera, Kurt Cabrera-Miller, Lucille Floresta, Alex Guerrero, Gregory Hoerner, Francis Hughes, Ann Job, Derek Martin, John Pacheco, Peter Postlmayr, David Rodriguez, Diana Rodriguez, Maria Silva and Diane Valencia. Voting No 0, Abstaining, Tammy Flores; Kathy Grubert and Christian Rubalcava, Absent and Emily Rubalcava, Ineligible.

8:21 – 8:24 p.m. 21.

Approval of the April Monthly Expenditure Report (MER). 1st by Wilson Bell; 2nd by Diane Valencia. The cost for interpreters was questioned due to cost being so high. There were three different events where interpreters were needed – The Town Hall regarding a new fire station, the Candidates Forum for the SNC Election and one Board meeting. Voting Yes - Wilson Bell, Kathy Bloom, Cheri Blose, Hector Cabrera, Kurt Cabrera-Miller, Lucille Floresta, Alex Guerrero, Gregory Hoerner, Francis Hughes, Ann Job, Derek Martin, John Pacheco, Peter Postlmayr, David Rodriguez, Diana Rodriguez, Maria Silva and Diane Valencia. Voting No 0, Abstaining, Tammy Flores; Kathy Grubert and Christian Rubalcava, Absent; and Emily Rubalcava, Ineligible.

8:24 – 8:34 p.m. 22.

Approval of an amount not to exceed \$2,000 for a Neighborhood Purpose Grant (NPG) for the LAFD Foundation, through the Adopt A Fire Station program, in support of quality of life items for the members of Sylmar's Fire Station 91 which are not covered by the City's budget. Budget Committee reviewed and allocated for Board approval. Presentation by the Los Angeles Fire Department Foundation and LAFD personnel. 1st by Alex Guerrero; 2nd by Derek Martin. Gregory Hoerner recused himself and left the room. Sylvia, co-ordinator for the Foundation, explained that items in fire stations are not furnished by City but must be purchased by the Firemen at each station. Various Board member and stakeholders spoke on both sides of issue. Voting Yes - Kathy Bloom, Cheri Blose, Kurt Cabrera-Miller, Alex Guerrero, Ann Job, Derek Martin, John Pacheco, Peter Postlmayr, Diana Rodriguez and Diane Valencia. Voting No - Wilson Bell, Lucille Floresta, David Rodriguez and Maria Silva. Abstaining- Hector Cabrera, Francis Hughes and Tammy Flores; Absent - Kathy Grubert and Christian Rubalcava; and Emily Rubalcava, Ineligible.

Captain Chambers and Fireman Coates of the LAFD arrived after the vote. They thanked the Board for the Grant and warned of rattlesnakes and the upcoming hot weather.

8:34 – 8:44 p.m. 23.

Approval of an amount not to exceed \$1,400.00 per month in rent for an office for the Sylmar Neighborhood Council, subject to Budget Committee inclusion and approval in the 2016-2017 Fiscal Year budget. Information furnished by Diane Valencia, Vice President of Administration. 1st by David Rodriguez; 2nd by Ann Job. Diane went over why we had lost our space at the Susan B. Anthony building at Sylmar Park. As El Cariso Park is going to be charging for use of Community Building in future, the SNC needs a place to have committee meeting. Tammy spoke in favor. Alex explained the cost of office rental was \$16,800/year. But with no longer needing a storage space at \$2,400/year, real cost would be \$14,400/year. Voting Yes – Wilson Bell, Kathy Bloom, Cheri Blose, Hector Cabrera, Kurt Cabrera-Miller, Lucille Floresta, Alex Guerrero, Gregory

Hoerner, Francis Hughes, Ann Job, Derek Martin, John Pacheco, Peter Postlmayr, David Rodriguez, Diana Rodriguez, Maria Silva and Diane Valencia. Voting No 0; Abstaining, Tammy Flores; Kathy Grubert and Christian Rubalcava, Absent; and Emily Rubalcava, Ineligible.

- 8:44 – 8:54 p.m. 24. **Approval of a one-time expenditure of \$1,500.00 for website redesign and set-up for the Sylmar Neighborhood Council website**, and a \$99.00 per month expenditure for ongoing website maintenance and support, subject to Budget Committee review and allocation. Presentation by Maria Silva, Vice President of Communications. She said that Web Corner would honor the estimate it gave the SNC two years ago and will provide training. 1st by Ann Job; 2nd by Wilson Bell, Voting Yes – Wilson Bell, Kathy Bloom, Cheri Blose, Hector Cabrera, Kurt Cabrera-Miller, Lucille Floresta, Gregory Hoerner, Francis Hughes, Ann Job, Derek Martin, John Pacheco, Peter Postlmayr, David Rodriguez, Diana Rodriguez, Maria Silva and Diane Valencia. Voting No 0, Abstaining, Alex Guerrero and Tammy Flores; Kathy Grubert and Christian Rubalcava, Absent; and Emily Rubalcava, Ineligible.
- 8:54 – 8:59 p.m. 25. **Approval of an amount not to exceed \$900.00 for the purchase of informational materials and doodads to be distributed to Sylmar Elementary Schools**, grades 1 through 5, for SNC Outreach purposes. Recommended by Outreach and reviewed by Budget Committees. All items must be purchased and funds spent by the Fiscal year '15 - '16 cutoff date of June 30, 2016. 1st by Wilson Bell; 2nd by Ann Job. Voting Yes – Wilson Bell, Kathy Bloom, Cheri Blose, Hector Cabrera, Kurt Cabrera-Miller, Lucille Floresta, Alex Guerrero, Gregory Hoerner, Francis Hughes, Ann Job, Derek Martin, John Pacheco, David Rodriguez, Diana Rodriguez and Maria. Voting No – Kurt Cabrera-Miller and Peter Postlmayr. Abstaining, Diane Valencia and Tammy Flores; Kathy Grubert and Christian Rubalcava, Absent; and Emily Rubalcava, Ineligible.
- 8:59 – 9:02 p.m. 26. **Discussion and possible action** related to the handling of Grievances filed against the SNC. Item tabled with a reverse vote – Yes 18, No 0, Absent 2 and 1 Abstention.
Diane Valencia left at 9:42 p.m.
- 9:02 – 9:04 p.m. 27. **Scheduling of a Board Retreat** to be held at Sylmar Library. Tammy suggested June 4th from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. 1st by David Rodriguez; 2nd by Alex Guerrero. Vote: Yes 16, No 1, Abstain 1 and Absent 3.
- 9:04 – 9:14 p.m. 28. **Action to designate NC Liaisons to City Departments** tabled in a reverse vote. Vote: Yes 12, No 1, Abstain 5 and Absent 3.
- 9:14 – 9:19 p.m. 29. **Possible formation of non-Standing Committees** tabled until the Retreat. 1st by Kathy Bloom; 2nd by Ann Job. Vote: Yes 18, No 0, Abstain 1 and Absent 2.
- 9:19 – 9:22 p.m. 30. **Board Member Comments / Announcements** Hector Cabrera wants Outreach meetings on south side. Kurt Cabrera-Miller suggested contacting Ms. Kuehl to work out room rental at El Cariso Park. David Rodriguez thanked Cheri Blose for Make Your Horse Count event, and Patti Rau for helping with minutes. Tammy Flore instructed all to help with set up and break down of meetings and retreat.
- 9:22 – 9:24 p.m. 31. **Future Agenda Items (2)**
Write to Executive Board by email at ExecutiveBoard@SylmarNC or mail Executive Board c/o Sylmar Neighborhood Council, P.O. Box 921023, Sylmar, CA 91392 –1023.
The next General Board meeting will be on June 23, 2016 at Sylmar High School.
- 9:24 – 9:25 p.m. 32. **Closing Remarks, Acknowledgements, and Adjournment.** Meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.
-