

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA

SYLMAR NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

PRESIDENT: Tammy Flores

VICE PRESIDENTS:

Administration: Diane Valencia

Communications: Maria Silva

TREASURER: Wilson Bell

PUBLIC RELATIONS: David M. Rodriguez



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GENERAL BOARD MEETING – Minutes  
Thursday, October 27, 2016; 6:30 P.M.  
Sylmar Charter High School – Spartan Hall  
13050 Borden Avenue, Sylmar, CA 91342

Sylmar Neighborhood Council Meeting Minutes are a summary, not an exact, verbatim, word-for-word transcript of what was said at a Meeting. The only two exceptions are the Motions shown in italics and quotes shown with quotation marks (“ ”) at the beginning and ending of a word or words. The Minutes are not, nor were they ever meant to be, a comprehensive record of what was said about an issue or project.

**1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance**

In the absence of President Tammy Flores, Vice President of Administration, Diane Valencia, called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM. Gregory Hoerner led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. Roll Call**

Diane took the roll: Present were Wilson Bell, Kathy Bloom, Cheri Blose, Lucille Floresta, Kathy Grubert, Gregory Hoerner, Derek Martin, Peter Postlmayr, David Rodriguez, Diana Rodriguez, Christian Rubalcava, Maria Silva and Diane Valencia. Absent were Tammy Flores, Hector Cabrera, Kurt Cabrera-Miller, Frank Hughes, Ann Job, John Pacheco, Emily Rubalcava. Quorum was met.

(Ann Job arrived at 8:28 PM; Kurt Cabrera-Miller arrived at 9:00 PM)

**3. Housekeeping: Sign-In Sheets, etc.**

Diane Valencia explained Housekeeping, the location of Speaker Cards, Meeting Rules and that Wilson Bell will be the Timekeeper.

**4. Welcome and Announcements** by Board Meeting Facility Host, Derek Martin. Mr. Martin welcomed all to Sylmar Charter High School and gave an update regarding the successful completion of a Department of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) audit. The audit consists of twelve different criteria. Most schools average a 73% -75% rating. Sylmar Charter High School scored over 93% in all twelve criteria.

**5. Public Officials and Community Representatives Announcement and Presentations.**

**Ruby Chavez**, available by calling (213) 241-6388, is the Chief of Staff for LAUSD Board of Education Board Member Mónica Ratliff of District 6. Ruby commends those from the neighborhood for the successful Town Hall & Resource Fair event held on Oct. 15, 2016. It was hosted by the Sylmar Neighborhood Council and supported by Mónica Ratliff's office. Next, she reminds the audience about the 2017-2018 PWT 'Choices' application submission deadline on Nov. 10<sup>th</sup>. Print-outs of the application and accompanying brochure were made available and more information can be found online at [eChoices.lausd.net](http://eChoices.lausd.net). The brochure informs guardians and parents of K-12 grade student(s) on how to get their student(s) into a 'magnet program' and it provides other information on student integration services.

Ruby shares six resolutions recently adopted by the LSUSD Board of Education. Each one was authored by Mónica Ratliff:

- Now recognizes National Disability Employment Awareness Month during November
- Substitute Educator's Appreciation Day is on October 18<sup>th</sup>
- Recognizes Native American Heritage Month during November
- Recognizes Homeless-Youth Awareness Month during November
- Introducing pilot programs aimed at reducing waste
- Reintroduce flavored milk to K-12 grade schools that want to participate and allow these schools to try different ways of offering milk or water to students

It was noted by Ms. Valencia that while Congressman Loretta Sanchez had requested time to speak during the meeting, a member of her staff reported that she was not present to do so at this time. The Congresswoman arrived later and was provided time to speak after the conclusion of agenda item #7

**Loretta Sanchez** is the Democratic Congresswoman for the 46<sup>th</sup> District of California. Elections will take place on Tuesday, Nov. 8, 2016. Loretta highlights some of the projects her office initiated this year with success. She addresses issues concerning the increased number of homeless on the streets throughout Southern California:

- Helped to open a manufacturing housing plant in San Bernardino earlier this year
- Using these houses to bring down the costs of homeownership for working families since no Transitional Housing Funds were awarded to Southern California this year from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) because it all went up to Northern California; These funds help families get out of domestic violence situation and offer job-training programs

Congresswoman Sanchez shared that Homelessness and joblessness are affecting many communities and shared a story about how her own family has been affected.

#### 6. Office of Public Engagement report on the progress of Mayor Garcetti's "Back to Basics" agenda and collaborative opportunities moving forward.

Diane Valencia requests postponement of Agenda Item 6 to later on in the meeting, due to Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti's East Valley Area Representative Brian Gavidia's absence. This item was resumed at 7:45 PM, upon Mr. Gavidia's arrival.

**Brian Gavidia**, available by emailing [http://brian.gavidia@lacity.org](mailto:brian.gavidia@lacity.org) or calling (818) 788-4990, is the East Valley Area Representative at Mayor Eric Garcetti's office of Public Engagement. He introduces himself, gives a brief professional history, and reminds the audience of the many departments and resources available to them should they need his or the mayor's assistance. He shares the following updates starting with 1 of 17 Executive Directives issued by the Mayor this year:

- [Directive No. 15 Equitable Workforce & Service Restoration](#) issued on April 29, 2016
- [COMPREHENSIVE HOMELESSNESS STRATEGY](#)  
Mayor secured US\$ 138 million towards the homeless reduction efforts
- [WELCOME HOME PROJECT](#) that provides care packages or 'baskets' to homeless from donations
- A partnership with [LAPD's H.O.P.E. Team](#) because being homeless is not a crime
- [The Clean Streets LA Challenge](#) that seeks to reduce illegal dumping of waste
- [MyLA 311 Service Request](#) to proactively report City matters via multiple communication platforms
- [LA Great Streets Challenge](#)

Additionally, he reported that the unemployment-rate went from 10.2% to 5.2% with a 127,000 Payroll Jobs created, and 149,000 new business registered within Los Angeles since Mayor Eric Garcetti took office. With 49,000 registered during the 2016 Fiscal Year.

Mr. Gavidia then presented Certificates from the Mayor to members of the SNC's Outreach Committee in recognition for their work on the recent Town Hall & Resource Fair.

#### 7. Public Comments on non-agendized items.

**Kelly Gonez**: A current candidate for LSUSD Board of Education Board Member District 6 seat. Election will take place on March 7, 2017. Kelly took time to introduce herself and her family to the audience. She is a Sylmar resident originally from nearby Mission Hills, she is married, and is a 7<sup>th</sup> grade science teacher. Kelly shared that she is running for the School Board seat to improve the opportunities for every child in the North-East San Fernando Valley. She also indicated that she is the only teacher who is running and believes that she has a wealth of experience that would really make a difference on the Board and for the people of the North-East Valley.

**Marti Marshall**: A stakeholder, shares a quote from former Orlando Sentinel columnist Charley Reese dated February 1984. Then she shares portions of Article 2, Section 1, 2.4, and 2.5, of the California Constitution regarding voting initiative and referendum recall. Marti encourages everyone to take time and read the California Constitution.

**Eugene Hernandez**: Reported that he went to speak with a group of homeless individuals camping out under the Astoria bridge. These individuals claimed rough treatment by police. He feels strongly that positive solutions exist and should be exercised instead of allowing homeless individuals to be victimized and neglected. Eugene also spoke about a free service available to the community for basic repairs on cellular device(s), laptop(s), or personal computer(s). The service is provided by students from LA Mission College's *Robotecas* club. More information regarding this student club can be found online at <http://www.robotecas.com>.

**Dennis Orellana**: Authored a resolution to address street traffic concerns caused by a local trucking company's large vehicles taking up all the parking spaces in his neighborhood. The oversized vehicles block other driver's ability to see

oncoming traffic. Dennis and his group have come seeking assistance from the SNC Board. They want to speak directly to the City Council Transportation Committee about this safety hazard. His resolution puts restrictions on oversize vehicles that are 7 ft. and taller, and/ or are 20 ft. and longer from parking.

**Pietro Ciardo:** Is a current Sylmar resident living off of Osceola Street who recently had a scary encounter with a wild coyote that left him and his two pet dogs injured. He asks the Board to consider and address concerns over coyote sightings & public safety. Specifically, potential attacks on young people, and documented attacks on pets during outdoor activities in and around Osceola Street. He then requests the Board help provide more trash-bins and small trash-bags throughout Sylmar for pet owners to utilize. He also requests more supervision be provided in the area and the use of existing penalties exercised for those pet-owners that leave pet waste behind during walks or for those patrons seen littering.

## 8. Committee Reports

**Executive Committee:** Nothing to report.

**Budget Committee:** Chair Wilson Bell held the last committee meeting on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. The Budget Committee members should anticipate an invitation to the next meeting by, or before October 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Bylaws Committee:** Chair Diane Valencia announced that the committee will now meet twice a month instead of once. On the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of every month. Board Members with any questions or concerns about Bylaws can directed to the committee for review.

**Outreach Committee:** Chair David M. Rodriguez shares that the Committee has been very successful in completing all of the goals it set for itself six months ago when they first convened.

**Planning & Land Use Committee:** Chair Peter Postlmayr shares that the committee meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month at El Cariso Park by the gymnasium. The following projects were discussed by the committee at their latest meeting.:

- Proposal to make 14154 Hubbert Street an RD2, it is currently an RD5
- The General Plan Amendment for a possible zone change at 13454 Dronfield Avenue
- Postponed discussion on the proposed sound walls along the 210 freeway since Mr. Reed was not present to make a scheduled presentation about the project
- The City's proposed [Affordable Housing Linkage Fee](#), that asses a \$12/ sq. ft. Fee on every building permit that goes into the Housing Trust Fund, intended to create affordable housing
- Proposal to make 12341 North San Fernando Road (Palacio Torres) a banquet hall, that will be discussed later as Agenda item #23.
- Proposal to make 13763 Foothill Boulevard a [Harbor Freight Tools](#) store

**Ad Hoc Committee for the Sylmar Sign:** Nothing to report. Chair Laurie Fadness was absent.

**Government Affairs:** Nothing to report. Chair Ann Job was absent.

(Christian Rubalcava arrived at 8:05 PM)

**Homeless Committee:** Chair Peggy Courtney shares that they meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of every month at the Church of the Foothills off of Glenoaks Blvd., from 6:30-8:00 PM. The committee will be involved with the Homeless Services Connect Day on Nov. 17<sup>th</sup>. They have sorted through a number of donations of clothing and other items and welcomed volunteers who are willing to serve for the event.

**Emergency Preparedness:** Committee member Gregory Hoerner shares that the group meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every month at the Sylmar Public Library inside the Community Room starting at 5:30 PM. Gregory thanked several supportive members of the Board and the community for allowing the committee to participate in the recent Town Hall event that helped educate people on emergency preparedness issues. The committee plans to provide FREE [C.E.R.T. Training](#), and the [MAP YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD \(MYN\)](#) program starting in either January or March of 2017 to those interested in participating.

**Equestrian Committee:** Chair Cheri Blose shared frustration in finding a suitable meeting space for the committee's monthly meetings. During their last assembly the group went over preparations for the next Make Your Horse Count event in May 2017. Cheri mentioned the warning-signal that is currently being installed for equestrians to cross Olive View Drive as the speeding traffic has caused ongoing safety concerns for equestrians.

## 9. City Liaison and Representatives Reports

**Animal Services:** Kelli Land shared information about a free spay & neuter services available and reminded everyone to micro-chip their pets due to a high number of lost pets in the area on the Next Door App.

**Budget Representative:** Budget Representative, Christian Rubalcava shares how Ann Job met with the L.A. Head of the Bureau of Street Services on Oct. 25<sup>th</sup> to discuss the necessary funding needed for street services. Ann is also working on a survey that will ask for feedback from community members regarding the City's budget.

**City Attorney:** Chair Diane Valencia has nothing to report.

**Planning:** Committee member Cheri Blose shares that the City recently upheld an injunction on a solar energy company's plans to create a solar farm in the community.

**Public Works:** Liaison, Christian Rubalcava, shares that he submitted an application that - if approved by the City - would award the SNC Board US\$ 15 hundred from the [LA Great Streets Challenge](#) funds to address increasing 311 reports and it would initiate more 'local street cleaning' events. This topic will be discussed under agenda item #20.

**Public Safety:** Gregory Hoerner reminds everyone that they need to practice caution and be safe while driving during the Halloween holiday. Diane Valencia invited everyone to join an LAPD '[Coffee With The Capitan](#)' event scheduled for Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>, at 12721 Glenoaks Boulevard aka Fiddler's Restaurant, from 6:00 - 7:00 P.M. There was a 13-acre brushfire recently which is thought to have been started by a camping/cooking stove in a homeless encampment, so she encouraged vigilance and asked the audience to diligently report homeless encampments to help reduce brush-fires and keep everyone safe.

**Transportation:** Chair Wilson Bell has nothing to report.

**DWP:** No report; the SNC has no DWP Liaison at this time.

**10. Budget Advocate Report**

No report; Ann Job was absent.

**11. Approval of a Neighborhood Purpose Grant for an amount not to exceed \$600 for Sylmar Charter High School to receive 100 lockdown kits, one for each classroom. Each emergency classroom kit will have a 5-gallon bucket with a toilet seat lid, and inside there would be: 1 toilet paper roll, 100 wet wipes, 25 waste bags, 10 pairs of vinyl gloves, 1 privacy screen, 1 bag of cat litter, and 1 roll of duct tape.**

Eric Rodriguez, Boy Scout Troop 316 explained this project, displayed some of the items that would be included in the kits and answered questions.

**Motion:** 1<sup>st</sup> by David M. Rodriguez; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Maria Silva

**Discussion:** Peter Postlmayr questioned why the agenda shows a request for \$600 while the NPG form reads \$300. It was clarified that while there is an outstanding balance due for the project of \$600, Mr. Rodriguez is only requesting \$300 as indicated on the formal NPG request. Peter Postlmayr asked for confirmation that since this item was for Sylmar Charter, if anyone who has a connection with the school should be voting. Diane Valencia mentioned that Derek Martin, being on staff at Sylmar Charter High School, had recused himself on this item and had left the room prior to this item being presented. She further asked the Board if anyone else had a connection to Sylmar Charter before proceeding further. Hearing none, the item proceeded. Marti Marshall expressed concern that the SNC budget does not allow for this expenditure.

**Vote:** 13 Yes (Wilson Bell, Kathy Bloom, Cheri Blose, Lucille Floresta, Kathy Grubert, Greg Hoerner, David Rodriguez, Peter Postlmayr, Diana Rodriguez, Christian Rubalcava, Maria Silva), 1 Abstention (Diane Valencia)

**Passed: 11-0-1**, with Derek Martin recusing

**12. Certificates of Recognition.**

David M. Rodriguez presented Certificates of Recognition from the SNC to Sylmar business owners Richard Cacho of Ultra Greens Nursery and Edward Campos of Imagination Works, and Principal Jose Velasquez of Osceola Street Elementary.

**13. Approval to hold the Sylmar Neighborhood Council's second community Mixer at restaurant Mama Licha's Kitchen on Thursday, Nov. 3, 2016.**

Outreach Chairman, David M. Rodriguez presented this item.

**Motion:** to approve, 1<sup>st</sup> by Christian Rubalcava; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wilson Bell

**Discussion:** None

**Vote:** A reverse vote was taken. All were in favor, with Diane Valencia abstaining.

**Passed: 12-0-1**

**14. Approval to hold an SNC community cleanup along Eldridge Avenue. Between Hubbard Street and Harding Street on Saturday, Nov. 19, 2016.**

Outreach Chairman, David M. Rodriguez presented this item.

**Motion:** to approve, 1<sup>st</sup> by Wilson Bell; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Maria Silva

**Discussion:** None

**Vote:** A reverse vote was taken. All were in favor, with Diane Valencia abstaining.

**Passed: 12-0-1**

**15. Discussion and possible action relative to fill the vacant Home/Condo Owner Board seat.**

Diane Valencia reported that the deadline to submit an application for the vacant Board seat had been extended to Nov. 10, 2016 and encouraged anyone who is qualified and interested in serving on the Board to apply. This item will be carried over to the November 2016 Board meeting.

**16. RECESS** lasted 10 minutes

**17. Discussion and possible action to form additional SNC Committees.**

Diane Valencia explained that President Tammy Flores had requested this be on the agenda.

**Motion:** to postpone this item until the November meeting, 1<sup>st</sup> by David M. Rodriguez; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wilson Bell

**Discussion:** Christian Rubalcava added that his sister's interest in leading a 'Youth Committee' has now evolved into more of a 'Volunteer Youth Core', which would help provide a pool of volunteers for ongoing monthly SNC events and outreach efforts.

**Vote:** A reverse vote was taken. All were in favor, with Diane Valencia abstaining.

**Passed: 12-0-1**

**18. Discussion and possible action relative to the President's nomination of new Committee Chair(s).**

Diane Valencia explained that this item is related to agenda item #16.

**Motion:** to postpone this item until the November meeting, 1<sup>st</sup> by David M. Rodriguez; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wilson Bell

**Discussion:** None

**Vote:** A reverse vote was taken. All were in favor, with Diane Valencia abstaining.

**Passed: 12-0-1**

**19. Discussion and possible action relative to dissolving inactive SNC Committees.**

Diane Valencia explained that President Tammy Flores had requested this be on the agenda.

**Motion:** to postpone this item until the November meeting, 1<sup>st</sup> by Wilson Bell; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Maria Silva

**Discussion:** None

**Vote:** A reverse vote was taken. All were in favor, with Diane Valencia abstaining.

**Passed: 12-0-1**

**20. Approve holding a community cleanup on October 29, 2016 in the area of San Fernando Road and Polk Street, with the purpose of promoting the use of 311 and fulfilling our action plan for the Clean Streets LA challenge.**

This item was presented by Christian Rubalcava, SNC Director and Public Works Liaison. Christian stated that the appropriate place to meet will be at Ross Liquor on Polk Street because of its proximity to the cleanup site. On Oct. 29<sup>th</sup> starting at 8:00 AM.

**Motion:** 1<sup>st</sup> by David M. Rodriguez; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wilson Bell

**Discussion:** David M. Rodriguez suggests Christian Rubalcava invite the 28 candidates running for Council District 7 to get a larger pool of volunteers for this upcoming event.

**Vote:** A reverse vote was taken. All were in favor, with Diane Valencia abstaining.

**Passed: 12-0-1**

**21. Designation of Christian Rubalcava, Bonnie Bernard and Patricia to assist, at least once each quarter, the President with examining the SNC's accounts and attesting to their accuracy before submitting the documentation to DONE for further review.**

**Motion:** 1<sup>st</sup> by Wilson Bell; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Peter Postlmayr

**Discussion:** Diane Valencia indicated that she had originally been suggested as a designee during the Executive Committee meeting, but that she prefers not to take on this project at this time.

**Vote:** A reverse vote was taken. All were in favor, with Diane Valencia abstaining.

**Passed: 12-0-1**

**22. Discussion and possible action relative to a Grievance filed by Stakeholder Marti Marshall, regarding possible violations of the Bylaws by the Budget Committee and the SNC Board.**

**Motion:** To table this item since the City already found this filing does not meet the criteria or definition of a 'Grievance'. Therefore, it will no longer be on the agenda for discussion moving forward; 1<sup>st</sup> by Wilson Bell; 2<sup>nd</sup> by David M. Rodriguez

**Discussion:** Stakeholder Marti Marshall, expressed frustration about the City's response to this filing. She requests the SNC Board start allocating the correct amount necessary for NPGs before approving any more.

Peter Postlmayr questioned if the agenda items that seek monetary support or funding, shouldn't first be heard by

the Budget Committee and then referred to the Board for further review. Wilson Bell mentions the meeting that was held on August 30<sup>th</sup> where strategic planning for the SNC took place. The SNC General Budget was put to vote and accepted as written. A re-write of the SNC General Budget is warranted and a meeting will be scheduled soon. Stakeholder Bonnie Bernard also provided general comments on the budget process.

**Vote:** A reverse vote was taken. All were in favor, with Diane Valencia abstaining.

**Passed: 12-0-1**

(Ann Job arrived at 8:28 PM)

**23. Approval the Continued Use Permit for another 10 years, pursuant to the provisions of section 12.24-M of the Los Angeles Municipal Code, in conjunction with the continued operation of a 12,487 square-foot banquet hall at 12341 N. San Fernando Road (Palacio Torres), accommodating 550 patrons featuring live entertainment, with hours of operation from 8:00 a.m. to 1:30 a.m. daily, on property located within the C2-2D-CPIO Zone. ZA-2003-7321-CUB-PA2 (10)**

This item was presented by Peter Postlmayr, Chair of the SNC's Planning & Land Use Committee. Peter indicated that this item has been reviewed and approved by the PLUC for recommended approval by the Board.

**Motion:** 1<sup>st</sup> by Peter Postlmayr; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Christian Rubalcava,

**Discussion:** Derek Martin requested clarification of the live entertainment aspects. Kathy Grubert sought clarity regarding 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph in the draft letter as it is written: "The banquet hall shall not operate... not more than 2 alcoholic beverages shall be served to a patron at any one time". Dan Rosales, representative of the owner clarified the intent of the 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph. It should read 'no patron can get more than 2 drinks served to them at any one time during events held at this location'.

**Vote:** A reverse vote was taken. All were in favor, with Diane Valencia abstaining.

**Passed: 13-0-1**

**24. Approval of a letter/formal Request for Action to Los Angeles City Council President, Herb. J. Wesson, Jr. and the Council's Transportation Committee relative to remedying the existing traffic signal design at the intersection of Maclay Street and Foothill Boulevard in Sylmar.**

This item was presented by Diane Valencia, SNC Public Safety Liaison.

**Motion:** 1<sup>st</sup> by Christian Rubalcava; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kathy Grubert

**Discussion:** Diane Valencia explained that the Department of Transportation has confirmed that changes to this intersection are warranted, but funding is not currently available.

**Vote:** A reverse vote was taken. All were in favor, with Diane Valencia abstaining.

**Passed: 13-0-1**

**25. Approval of a Community Impact Statement (CIS), in support of City Council File #15-1138-S11, which would instruct the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment to report on a process that would incorporate input from the neighborhood councils and establish a Homeless Advocate program with liaisons from the neighborhood councils.**

Peggy Courtney, Chair of the SNC's Homeless Committee explained this item and stated that the City Council has already taken action on this item. As such, no action is required.

**Motion:** None

**Discussion:** None

**Vote:** None

**26. Approval of Minutes of the August 30, 2016 Special Board Meeting, as written.**

**Motion:** 1<sup>st</sup> by David M. Rodriguez; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wilson Bell

**Discussion:**

**Vote:** A reverse vote was taken. 11 in favor, with Gregory Hoerner, Derek Martin and Diane Valencia abstaining.

**Passed: 11-0-3**

**27. Approval of Minutes of the September 22, 2016 General Board Meeting**

Diane Valencia explained that the Minutes had not been finalized and were not available to review. Item to be considered at the next meeting.

**Motion:** None

**Discussion:** None

**Vote:** None

**28. Discussion related to various Neighborhood Training topics, including but not limited to, agendas, minutes, the Brown Act, serial communications, and other topics that may be of benefit to the SNC's Directors.**

Diane Valencia reminded Committee Chairs that all agenda and minutes should be submitted directly to her or Maria Silva for handling. Kathy Grubert questioned why Chairs are not posting their own documents and expressed that this process is likely not an efficient use of time for Ms. Valencia. Ms. Silva clarified that the SNC's webmaster, The Web Corner has asked that only two contacts on the SNC Board submit information. Ann Job spoke about the Committee Chairs posting their own documents, but Ms. Silva indicated that Chairs have not pursued this option though she has offered training.

Kurt Cabrera-Miller arrived at 9:00 PM

**29. Treasurer's Report.** Nothing to report.

**30. Adoption of the September Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) (3)**

Treasurer, Wilson Bell indicated that a Budget Committee meeting will be scheduled by October 31<sup>st</sup>. The top agenda item will be refining the General Budget.

**Motion:** 1<sup>st</sup> by Ann Job; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Maria Silva

**Discussion:** David M. Rodriguez: Acknowledges that the Outreach Committee has worked diligently with its vendors to get the best possible deals and has had various expenditures come in under budget.

Diana Rodriguez: She encourages SNC Directors to join in the upcoming Budget Committee meeting. It is a topic that Board Members may have a lot of opinions about and each should be heard.

Peter Postlmayr: Questions if any limits on spending are set by policy regarding the costs of providing refreshments to committee meetings. Questions if the Budget can or should afford monthly refreshments for the Board meeting, when some committees provide added refreshments at their committee meetings.

Ann Job: Shares that refreshments for meetings are allocated out of the Outreach Committee's budget. She offers her assistance to those Chair(s) in need of refreshments for their next committee meeting.

Maria Silva: Attended the recent Congress of Councils event and indicated that a few years ago it was recommended that NC(s) use half or 50% of their Budget towards outreach. This year, it was announced that three-quarters or of the Budget should be used towards outreach.

Kathy Grubert: Shares that the goal of the budget revision would be to align with the SNC's Strategic Plan.  
Public Comment

Marti Marshall: Requested a count of the names that were collected and added to the SNC database after the success of the Town Hall & Resource Fair event.

**Vote:** (Yes) - Wilson Bell, Kathy Bloom, Cheri Blose, Kurt Cabrera-Miller, Lucille Floresta, Kathy Grubert, Gregory Hoerner, Ann Job, Derek Martin, Peter Postlmayr, David M. Rodriguez, Diana Rodriguez, Christian Rubalcava, Maria Silva; (Abstain) – Diane Valencia

**Passed: 14-0-1**

**31. Approval of a Neighborhood Purpose Grant for an amount not to exceed \$300 for the 2016 NEVHC Toy Drive Partnership.**

Kurt Cabrera-Miller recuses himself at 9:05 PM.

**Motion:** To approve - 1<sup>st</sup> David M. Rodriguez; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wilson Bell; David M. Rodriguez then withdrew the original motion and amended the motion to table this item to the November 2016 Board meeting. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wilson Bell.

**Discussion:** The applicant was not available to present the item, but it was pointed out that she was present at the prior month's Board meeting. David M. Rodriguez explained that the Outreach Committee voted 2/2 on this item and it did not pass. Peter Postlmayr questioned whether or not the Budget Committee reviewed and is recommending this item. Wilson Bell indicated that the Committee is advisory only and that ultimately, all funding items need to come to the Board for approval. Ann Job encourages the Board to approach NPG application(s) with the same merits and measures that the Department of Neighbor Empowerment (DONE) uses. DONE considered how much is being petitioned versus the cost of the overall project requesting support. DONE considers if the NPG application is being 'shopped around' to other neighborhood councils. Stakeholder Marti Marshall questioned why this item came to the Board without a Committee recommendation. Diana Rodriguez suggested that the Board needs to identify a clear process around funding items. Stakeholder Eugene Hernandez expressed that he was not in favor of this item. Stakeholders Patricia Rau and Bonnie Bernard indicated that it should be clear how the community may benefit from this item.

**Vote:** (Yes) - Wilson Bell, Kathy Bloom, Cheri Blose, Lucille Floresta, Kathy Grubert, Gregory Hoerner, Ann Job, Derek Martin, Peter Postlmayr, David M. Rodriguez, Diana Rodriguez, Maria Silva; (No) – Christian Rubalcava; (Abstain) – Diane Valencia

**Passed: 12-1-1**, with Kurt Cabrera-Miller recusing

Kurt Cabrera-Miller returns to the room at 9:12 PM

**32. Approval of a Neighborhood Purpose Grant for amount not to exceed \$1,000 for the San Fernando Valley Veterans Day Parade which goes down Laurel Canyon Blvd from San Fernando Mission Blvd to South Paxton to Ritchie Valens Recreation Center on Friday, November 11, 2016. Sylmar Neighborhood Council logo to be printed on T-shirts. VIP access provided to SNC Board members, including continental breakfast.**

Applicant Fred Flores was unavailable to present this item. The SFVVDP's Secretary, David Reniker presents in his absence and notes that this is the 13<sup>th</sup> annual event.

**Motion:** 1<sup>st</sup> by Ann Job to approve a lesser amount of \$300 to support this event; 2<sup>nd</sup> by David M. Rodriguez. Christian moves to amend the motion to approve \$1,000 to support this event, 2<sup>nd</sup> by David M. Rodriguez.

**Discussion:** Maria Silva expressed her support for the military and that the full \$1,000 would be well spent. Kurt Cabrera-Miller suggests that instead of providing VIP access to the SNC, that those spots be allocated to the VFW. Peter Postlmayr expressed concern about not knowing if funds were available and asked what history, if any, the SNC has with this event. Wilson Bell indicated that funds are available and that the SNC did not participate in 2015 due to the item being submitted to the SNC too late, but had supported the event in the past. Derek Martin shared that he has rode in the parade in the past as a Veteran and that this is the largest Veteran's Parade in the entire San Fernando Valley. Stakeholder John Holmes encouraged the Board to support the event. Stakeholder Eugene Hernandez expressed general concern about this event and that it is outside of Sylmar.

**Vote on the amendment:** (Yes) - Wilson Bell, Kathy Bloom, Cheri Blose, Kurt Cabrera-Miller, Lucille Floresta, Kathy Grubert, Gregory Hoerner, Ann Job, Derek Martin, David M. Rodriguez, Christian Rubalcava, Diana Rodriguez, Maria Silva; (No) – Peter Postlmayr; (Abstention) – Diane Valencia

**Passed: 13-1-1**

**Vote to approve the item at \$1,000:** (Yes) - Wilson Bell, Kathy Bloom, Cheri Blose, Kurt Cabrera-Miller, Lucille Floresta, Kathy Grubert, Gregory Hoerner, Ann Job, Derek Martin, Peter Postlmayr, David M. Rodriguez, Christian Rubalcava, Diana Rodriguez, Maria Silva; (Abstention) – Diane Valencia

**Passed: 14-0-1**

**33. Approval of an expenditure not to exceed \$1,500 to fill SNC backpacks for the Sylmar Homeless Services Connect Day, Nov. 17, 2017.**

This item was presented by Peggy Courtney, Chair – SNC Homeless Committee

**Motion:** 1<sup>st</sup> by Kathy Grubert; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Cheri Blose

**Discussion:** Ann Job indicated that there are some leftover backpacks from last year which can be added for this event.

**Vote:** (Yes) - Wilson Bell, Kathy Bloom, Cheri Blose, Lucille Floresta, Kathy Grubert, Gregory Hoerner, Ann Job, Derek Martin, Peter Postlmayr, David M. Rodriguez, Diana Rodriguez, Christian Rubalcava, Maria Silva; (Abstain) – Kurt Cabrera-Miller, Diane Valencia.

**Passed: 13-0-2**

**34. Approval of an expenditure of \$200 for the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Council's (VANC) Planning Forum on Thursday, November 10, at CBS Studios in Studio City. The amount of the expenditure will be increased by \$25 for each board member who commits to attending the training. Funds will come from Outreach/Events.**

Ann Job presented this item and answered questions from the Board.

**Motion:** 1<sup>st</sup> by Ann Job; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wilson Bell

**Discussion:** Ann Job requested a show of hands from the Board to determine who can attend this event. The following board member committed to attend the training. Ann Job, Cheri Blose, Kurt Cabrera-Miller, and Peter Postlmayr all committed to attend this event, for a total of an additional \$100 to be added to the \$200.

**Vote:** (Yes) - Wilson Bell, Kathy Bloom, Cheri Blose, Kurt Cabrera-Miller, Lucille Floresta, Kathy Grubert, Gregory Hoerner, Ann Job, Derek Martin, Peter Postlmayr, Christian Rubalcava; (No) – David M. Rodriguez, Diana Rodriguez, Maria Silva (Abstain) – Diane Valencia.

**Passed: 11-3-1**

**35. Approval to schedule the SNC Board meeting/Holiday Mixer for December 15, 2016.**

Item presented by Diane Valencia and suggested that the Board determine a location at a later date.

**Motion:** 1<sup>st</sup> Christian Rubalcava; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wilson Bell

**Discussion:**

**Vote:** A reverse vote was taken. All were in favor, with Diane Valencia abstaining.

**Passed: 14-0-1**

**36. Board Member Comments / Announcements**

Ann Job questioned if she can send a Thank You letter out before their next assembly. The letter was written on behalf of the SNC Board and it thanks President Herb J. Wesson and the Los Angeles City Council Transportation Committee for awarding an additional \$5,000 in additional Neighborhood Council funding.

David M. Rodriguez commented on internal and external Board dynamics and encouraged the Board to give itself a pat on the back for its good work.

Maria Silva commented that the pencil distribution project that was done through the Outreach Committee was appreciated by students and teachers.

**37. Future Agenda Items**

Write to the Executive Board by email at [ExecutiveBoard@SylmarNC.org](mailto:ExecutiveBoard@SylmarNC.org) 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 November 17, 2016 at Osceola Street Elementary School

**38. Closing remarks, Acknowledgements and Adjournment**

David M. Rodriguez motions to adjourn the meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wilson Bell. With no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 9:56 PM.

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