

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

California



SYLMAR NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

PRESIDENT: Christian Rubalcava

VICE PRESIDENTS:

Administration: Andres Rubalcava

Communications: Maria Silva

SECRETARY: Michelle Underwood

TREASURER: George Ortega

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**Sylmar Neighborhood Council
General Board Meeting – Draft Minutes
Thursday, July 25, 2019 – 6:30 PM
Sylmar Charter High School- Spartan Hall
13050 Borden Ave. Sylmar, Ca. 91342**

Board Member	Roll Call	Funding Vote Eligible*	Category
Acevedo, Brielle	Present	Yes	At-Large
Bloom, Kathy	Present	Yes	CBO
Blose, Cheri	Present	Yes	ER
Cabrera, Hector	Present	Yes	At-Large
Floresta, Lucille	Present	Yes	Business
Gonzales, David	Present	Yes	Renter
Lara, Carlos	Absent	No	Business
Magana, Veronica	Present	Yes	CBO
McMillan, Penelope	Present	Yes	Senior
Montano, Guadalupe	Present	Yes	Home/Condo
Opperman, Bob	Present	Yes	Home/Condo
Ortega, George	Present	Yes	Recreation
Pacheco, John	Present	Yes	At-Large
Rubalcava, Andres	Present	Yes	Home/Condo
Rubalcava, Christian	Present	Yes	Renter
Silva, Maria	Present	Yes	Home/Condo
Torres, Karina	Absent	Yes	Youth
Torres, Maria	Absent	Yes	At-Large
Underwood, Michelle	Present	Yes	Business
Velasquez, Jose	Absent	No	Education
Zelaya, Donald	Present	Yes	At-Large
TOTAL: 21	PRESENT 17 , Absent 04		

- 1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance** The meeting was called to order at 6:36PM by Mr. C. Rubalcava. There were 12 stakeholders present. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. A. Rubalcava.
- 2. Roll Call-** Roll Call was done by Ms. Underwood there were 17 Boardmembers present and quorum (11) was met.

SNC ITEM 2 Roll Call	
Present –17	Absent-04
Acevedo, Bloom, Blose, Cabrera, Floresta, Gonzales, Magana, McMillan, Montano, Opperman, Ortega, Pacheco, A. Rubalcava, C. Rubalcava, Silva, Underwood, Zelaya	Lara, K. Torres, M. Torres, Velasquez

3. Housekeeping and Welcome from Facility Host- We apologize for the Air Conditioning not being on. It is hot and we are waiting for someone to respond. Mr. C. Rubalcava called Juan Solario to speak on behalf of Monica Rodriguez. He thanked Mr. Solario for helping stakeholder Ray by waiving the dump fees after he had done an impromptu clean up.

4. Public Official and Community Representative Announcements & Presentations:

- a. Area Rep. Juan Solario, Councilmember Monica Rodriguez - Movie in the Park on Friday, July 26, 2019. The movie will be Madagascar which starts at 7:30PM. There will be free popcorn and popsicles. Mr. Solario thanked the Sylmar Neighborhood Council for supplying hotdogs and water. The Los Angeles City Council is currently on summer recess. If you have any comments or ideas on policies, please let the council office know. Mr. Solario gave updates on some of the local cleanups and weed abatements on DWP property that is being done. Trees on Foothill between Polk and Bledsoe are now scheduled to be trimmed. A local resident reported that an illegal cannabis shop on Gladstone had reopened. It has been shut down again and the property owner was contacted.
 - I. Marti Marshall asked for emails to be sent out from the Councilmember to let the community know what she is working on. Mr. Solario responded that he will work on it.
 - II. Les Stakeholder asked what the procedure is for having bad paving repairs fixed on major streets. Mr. Solario stated that they were looking for funding.

- b. Vanessa Serrano, Project Coordinator Empower LA, email vanessa.serrano@lacity.org, 818-374-9889. The next NC Ethics Training will be on July 31, 2019 from 6:00PM to 9:00PM at the Marvin Braude Building in Van Nuys. Call to R.S.V.P. There will also be an election feedback session on August 1, 2019 at fire station 87 the address is 10124 Balboa Blvd. in Granada Hills. The session will run from 6:00PM to 8:00PM. Ms. Serrano introduced Freddy Cuppen-Ames a new Project Coordinator with Empower LA.

- c. Arturo Garcia-Mendoza, Assemblymember Luz Rivas-Brenda Yanez Zamora was not able to attend tonight. Mr. Garcia advised the Board on Luz Rivas and the first piece of Legislation she wrote. It dedicates the 210 and the 5 Freeway interchange to fallen Caltrans workers. The Legislation was passed and the signs have been installed.
 - I. Marti Marshall- wants emails to know updates and what she is working on. Mr. Garcia –Mendoza gave an update that Ms. Rivas is working on a package of Legislation that helps homeless youth.

- d. Field Rep. Michelle Vergara, Congressman Tony Cardenas- Ms. Vergara put a guide on the side table on how to access services at the federal level. Ms. Vergara stated that Congressman

Cardenas supports the impeachment of the President of the United States. Congress has passed a bill to provide better devices to our military personnel in combat. Last Friday the Congressman's office held a job fair. There were 25 employers. Participants received free haircuts, professional clothing, and attended resume workshops. The Congressman's office will be hosting both an immigration workshop and a health fair in the future.

- i. Les Eisenman- How many people got jobs? How many were interviewed? Ms. Vergara responded that there were about 100 people and that she will have more information later.
 - ii. Ann Job- When Congressman Brad Sherman was our Congressman, he hosted a Town Hall with the community every quarter.
 - iii. Bonnie Bernard-Congressman Cardenas needs to come to Mission College again. People are panicking over "Ice Raids." He needs to do something proactive. What is he doing for immigration? Ms. Vergara said that the office is letting people know what their rights are.
- e. Ann Job, Budget Advocates- Ms. Job is one of Sylmar Neighborhood Councils Budget Representative and she was also chosen as a Regional Budget Advocate. This is the beginning of the Fiscal Year. The Budget Advocates meet with the mayor. Ms. Job attended a meeting with the Mayor to discuss the city budget. The Budget Advocates need to represent the stakeholders and Neighborhood Councils. Jay Handel and Liz Amsden stepped down as the Co-Chairs of Budget Advocates. The new Co-Chairs are Carol Newman and Jack Humphreville. Mr. Humphreville is very focused on pensions.
- f. Benita Trujillo, Supervisor Sheila Kuehl- The long-awaited Sylmar Armory/ Women's Bridge Housing will have a ground breaking any day. They hope to have it ready in 8 months.
- g. Representative East Valley, Office of Mayor Garcetti – Absent
- h. FD Eveline Bravo-Ayala, Senator Hertzberg's Office-Absent
- i. FD Jarrod Degonia, County Supervisor Kathryn Barger-Absent
- j. Senior Lead Officers-Absent
- k. FD Esmeralda Marcial, LAUSD District 6 – Absent

5. Public Comment on non-agenda items within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction.

- a. Marti Marshall spoke about the presentation that she would be putting together for next month's Public Comment which will address the 5 documents which were the basis for the Declaration of Independence including the Magna Carta.

Mr. C. Rubalcava returned the meeting to Public Officials Announcements

Benita Trujillo, Supervisor Sheila Kuehl- The long-awaited Sylmar Armory/ Women's Bridge Housing will have a ground breaking any day. They hope to have it ready in 8 months.

Mr. C. Rubalcava moved the meeting back to Public Comments

- b. Ismael Gutierrez spoke about an accident last week in front of Vallarta which he felt was caused by a street vendor blocking visibility. He feels there needs to be enforcement of laws.
- c. Laura Stakeholder-has seen a lot of changes in 6 years. Has been in touch with Mr. Solario and Southern California Edison. Businesses need to be held accountable for dumping. We are a dumping ground for Homelessness and trash. Vons, the ice cream parlor, and Panda Express have been robbed.
- d. Stakeholder-wants to talk about rent control people are leaving the area
- e. Bonnie Bernard- She is not the owner of the shopping center. Many businesses have problems with theft and petty crimes. There are also problems with graffiti and illegal dumping. The owner and Ms. Bernard are working on getting gates installed.
- f. Freddy Cuppen- Ames-There is an online NC voter survey at: Bitley/NCVoterSURVEY2019

6. President and Executive Committee Report

Since the last Board Meeting, Sylmar Neighborhood Council helped to sponsor the Movies in the Park Event by providing water and snacks. Several Board Members attended the Sylmar Park Improvement Grant Meetings. Those that attended saw the new plans for the park are being considered. The plans showed a new skate park, a volleyball court, and an amphitheater. It is an \$8 million-dollar grant. There were Boardmembers present at the Olive View Hospital project meeting at Mission College. There was a meeting held today with our new representative from the Mayor’s office, Jose Diaz, Carlos Lara, Christian Rubalcava, Ray and Aura Garcia Public Works Commissioner community issues were discussed. There was an impromptu clean up today which C. Rubalcava and Carlos Lara participated in. Miss Job mentioned that Mr. Postlmayr was also at the Olive View Meeting at Mission College. Mr. C. Rubalcava asked if any Boardmembers who wanted to give reports. David Mr. Gonzales-The website has been updated. There are Boardmembers who have not sent in bios for the website. There will also training for Social Media for people that are interested in helping.

7. Discussion and possible action on establishing the following Term Committees consistent with Article VII, Section 2 of the Sylmar NC Bylaws. Each committee requires a motion, a second, and a vote.

- a. Homeless Services Committee

Public comment: no comment

Motion passed

SNC ITEM 7 Motion to Establish a Homeless Services Committee Motion: A. Rubalcava Second: Silva				
Yes –17	No- 00	Abstain–00	Not Eligible-00	Absent – 04
Acevedo, Bloom, Blose, Cabrera, Floresta, Gonzales, Magana, McMillan, Montano, Opperman, Ortega, Pacheco, A. Rubalcava, C. Rubalcava, Silva, Underwood, Zelaya	NONE	NONE	NONE	Lara, K. Torres, M. Torres, Velasquez

8. Presidential Appointment of Term Committee Chairs

- a. Homeless Services Committee

Public comment: no comment

Motion passed

SNC ITEM 8a Motion to approve Ms. Acevedo as the Homeless Services Chair Moved: A. Rubalcava Second: Silva				
Yes -17	No- 00	Abstain-00	Not Eligible-00	Absent - 04
Acevedo, Bloom, Blose, Cabrera, Floresta, Gonzales, Magana, McMillan, Montano, Opperman, Ortega, Pacheco, A. Rubalcava, C. Rubalcava, Silva, Underwood, Zelaya	NONE	NONE	NONE	Lara, K. Torres, M. Torres, Velasquez

9. Committee Announcements and Reports

Neighborhood Council committee meetings are being held Sylmar Neighborhood Council office unless otherwise stated.

1st Mondays, 6:30PM-Senior Committee- Ms. McMillan, Chair

The first meeting will be held on August 5, 2019.

1st Tuesdays- Homeless Services-Ms. Acevedo, Chair

1st Wednesdays, Equestrian Committee- Ms. Blose

The committee will be holding two meetings a month until the Make Your Horse Count event.

1st Thursdays - Bylaws Committee – Ms. Silva, Chair

The first meeting will be on August 1, 2019 at 6:30PM or 7:00PM TBA

2nd Mondays, 7:00PM- Outreach Committee - Mr. Zelaya, Chair

There was good feedback at the kick off meeting. The committee will focus on community engagement.

2nd Tuesdays, 6:30PM-Government and Community Relations-Ms. Montano, Chair

2nd Wednesdays, 6:30PM-Planning and Land Use Committee-Peter Postlmayr, Chair

2nd Thursdays, Public Safety Committee- Diane Valencia, Chair

Meets at Oakridge Clubhouse

2nd Thursdays, 6:30PM Equestrian Committee - Ms. Blose, Chair

Meets at Oakridge Clubhouse

3rd Tuesdays, 5:30PM-Meeting, 6:30PM to 8:00PM-Presentations- Emergency Preparedness-Mr.

Pacheco, Chair

There is a CERT class graduating in July.

3rd Wednesdays, Equestrian-Ms. Blose

3rd Thursdays, Joint Budget 6:30PM and Executive Committee to follow - Mr. Ortega, Mr. C. Rubalcava, Chairs

4TH Thursdays, Sylmar Neighborhood Council General Board Meeting- Mr. C. Rubalcava, President Meets at Sylmar High School unless otherwise posted

10. Meet and Greet (15 Minute Break) –Item Postponed

11. Discussion and possible action on approving the May 2019 Monthly MERS

Public comment: no comment

Motion passed

SNC ITEM Motion to approve the June 2019 Monthly Expenditure Report Moved: A. Rubalcava Second: Ortega				
Yes –17	No- 00	Abstain–00	Not Eligible-00	Absent – 04
Acevedo, Bloom, Blose, Cabrera, Floresta, Gonzales, Magana, McMillan, Montano, Opperman, Ortega, Pacheco, A. Rubalcava, C. Rubalcava, Silva, Underwood, Zelaya	None	None	None	Lara, K. Torres, M. Torres, Velasquez

12. Discussion and possible action on approving the minutes of the June 2019 monthly meeting-Item Postponed

13. Recap and Review of the Sylmar NC Retreat held on June 29, 2019. This includes the objectives agreed upon during the strategic planning session. There were great goals and objectives discussed at the retreat. A two-year strategic plan was created. We want to vitalize the community

1. Foster and build a relationship with the Sylmar Chamber of Commerce.
2. Organize a Town Hall for all of the elected officials at city, state, and federal level to participate in within the next two years.
3. Ask the Council District 7 Councilmember to write a motion to build a new fire station in Sylmar.
4. Raise awareness of the Sylmar Neighborhood Council to ten thousand stakeholders. (There are currently about three thousand)
5. Make Sylmar Neighborhood Council #1, the most relevant Neighborhood Council in the City of Los Angeles for Emergency Preparation and Recovery.

Some of our challenges:

1. Apathy in the community
2. One of the major challenges is a lack of support from our elected officials.
3. Making sure we have consistent leadership and efficient use of volunteer time.

Public Comment: Bonnie Bernard stated that she was happy the work the Board is doing and how transparent things are being done.

14. Discussion and possible action on approving an amount not to exceed \$400.00 for the purchase of a wireless microphone for use during Board meeting, town halls and other Sylmar NC events

Public Comment: no comment

Motion passed

SNC ITEM 14 Motion to approve up to \$400.00 for the purchase of a wireless microphone. Moved: Underwood Second: Zelaya				
Yes –16	No- 00	Abstain–01	Not Eligible-00	Absent – 04
Acevedo, Bloom, Blose, Cabrera, Floresta, Gonzales, Magana, McMillan, Montano, Opperman, Ortega, Pacheco, A. Rubalcava, Silva, Underwood, Zelaya	None	C. Rubalcava	None	Lara, K. Torres, M. Torres, Velasquez

15. Board Member Comments / Announcements

- a. Mr. Opperman-being on the Board is something that we should not take lightly. There needs to be a motion to remove Ms. K. Torres, and Ms. M. Torres for not attending meetings. According to Board rules it is not a rule that Boardmembers have to be on a committee. He would like to have the Bylaws Committee change it to they shall or must be on a committee.
- b. Mr. Ortega-should vs. shall. I feel good about this Board.
- c. Ms. Blose- is happy with the energy she sees on this Board.
- d. Ms. Underwood- wanted to thank Brenda from Ms. Rivas office for all of her responses and help.
- e. Mr. Gonzales - National Night Out will be on Tuesday, August 6, 2019 at Brand Park. There will be free food, ice cream and raffle prizes, it will be held from 5:00PM to 8:00PM.
- f. Ms. McMillan- is concerned about the upkeep of the Pioneer Cemetery.

16. Future Agenda Items

Write to Executive Board by email at ExecutiveBoard@SylmarNC.org or mail
 Executive Board c/o Sylmar Neighborhood Council,
 P.O. Box 921023, Sylmar, CA 91392-10

17. Closing Remarks, Acknowledgements, and Adjournment. Meeting adjourned at 8:19 (No Vote was taken)

**The Next Sylmar Neighborhood Council Board Meeting Will Be:
 August 22, 2019 at 6:30PM
 Location: Sylmar Charter High School
 13050 Borden Ave. Sylmar, CA 91342**