

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA



**NORTH HOLLYWOOD
NORTH EAST
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

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BOARD MEMBERS of NHNENC:

Randal Luse – Pres. Wung Chang Florence Dorick Al Henriquez Inez T. Morin Katie Pelych	Ernie Moscoso – V-Pres. J. Eric Freedner–Sec. Donald Corton Judy Harris-Brice Philip Manson Sarah Ramsawack
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MINUTES of the MONTHLY MEETING of the BOARD OF DIRECTORS

August 8, 2009

Valley Plaza Library, 12311 Vanowen St., North Hollywood, CA

CALL TO ORDER: Sec. J. Eric Freedner called the meeting to order at 10:10 AM. Minute of silence observed in memory of Board Member Loretta Luse. Roll call - present were: Dr. Wung Chang, Florence Dorick, J. Eric Freedner, Philip Manson, and Sarah Ramsawack. A quorum was achieved when Board members Ernie Moscoso and Katie Pelych arrived shortly afterward.

COMMENTS FROM GOV'T REPRESENTATIVES: LAPD Officer Esther Vasquez thanked the Board for the Q-Star cameras. Discussion of July crime statistics in area north of Vanowen St.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Tom Wallace, Chief Financial Operations, Valley Interfaith Council – requests a \$2,500 donation for purchase of food items for the unemployed and those without resources to buy food; is making this request to other NC's as well. Left a grant proposal but said he could also provide an invoice if the Board wished to handle this as a purchase rather than a grant. Mr. Moscoso directed that this be put on next month's agenda (providing up to \$2,500).

Stakeholder Ben Moore – recommendation to revise By-Laws, including into them all policies and rules of the NC. Questions how items get onto Agenda. Would like to see how stakeholder requests for agenda items can be accomplished.

Mr. Moscoso – directed an agenda item for next meeting, clarification as to how matters get onto our agenda. Ms. Ramsawack – also asks an agenda item, that a By-Laws committee be established to review the By-laws.

APPROVAL OF JULY MINUTES: Discussion as to format. Mr. Freedner said he's been advised by 2 Board members to change the manner in which he transcribes minutes, starting with this meeting, to omit a lot of commentary that seems to have recently given rise to confusion and requests to change the minutes. Discussion as to possibility of hiring a professional transcriber for meetings. Motion (Mr. Freedner): to approve the minutes taken by Mr. Henriquez of the 7/18/09 meeting. Second: Mr. Manson. VOTE: 6 – Yes, 1 – Abstain.

Mr. Moscoso directed that hiring a transcriber be placed on the next meeting's agenda.

WEBSITE: Discussion on going forward, allocating money for website; other possible website providers; who would be webmaster for NC. Motion (Mr. Manson): that the NC approve spending up to \$5,000 for our Neighborhood Council website, including domain registration and hosting, site design and build. Second: Mr. Freedner. Further discussion, stakeholder request to amend motion, refused. VOTE: 7 – Yes, 0 – No.

NC LOGO: Alfonso Pelayo presented 4 drafts of a NC seal. No charge for his artwork but he wishes to be recorded as the sole creator of this work and it is only for use by our NC. Discussion, will seal still be legible if shrunk down to 1" and copied in black-and-white? Motion (Ms. Dorick): That the NC adopt draft number 4 (border of little circles) as our NHNENC Logo. Second: Ms. Ramsawack. VOTE: 6 – Yes 1 – No.

DISSOLVING OUTREACH COMMITTEE OR CHANGING ITS COMPOSITION: Mr. Freedner expressed concern with recent activities of Ms. Ramsawack, including a letter written to members of the public just after the Neighborhood Night Out funding was voted down by the Board, a more recent email to Joaquin Macias re criticizing efforts to supply laptops and discs to the LAPD for Q-Star camera training, soliciting Archer's Tow as a possible meeting place (outside of our area) and the newsletter apparently going out to people without the Board's approval. Committee should work for the Board not on its own. Ms. Ramsawack replied in part, the newsletter has not yet gone out to anyone and nothing yet spent on it. Further discussion as to the duties and obligations regarding Q-Star camera training, a part of Outreach Committee function or not? Possibly change By-Laws to clarify what committees are to do on their own and what needs to be communicated to the whole Board and at what stage. Other Board members spoke of dissatisfaction as to Night Out communication; but moratorium on any By-Laws changes. Mr. Moscoso directed that this matter be tabled until next month for a cooling-off period.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT: Ms. Ramsawack identified committee members as: Ms. Dorick, Ms. Morin, Mr. Manson, stakeholders Ben Moore, Alfonso Pelayo, Ricardo Arevedo and herself. Applied for bulk mailing permit. Plans for Oct. 24 Bicycle Safety Promotion at Food 4 Less, 10 AM – 4 PM, to be held twice a year. Discussion, criticism and praise for the proposal. Motion (Ms. Dorick): The Board accept the Outreach Committee Report in its entirety including holding an Outreach Event on October 24 at Food 4 Less in North Hollywood. Funding amount sought to be determined at next Board meeting. Second: Mr. Manson. VOTE: 7 – Yes 0 - No.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Ms. Morin absent. Objection by Mr. Moscoso to further discussion of assumed balance without books and records to back it up.

MEDICAL MARIJUANA DISPENSARY, 8239 LANKERSHIM BLVD.: Ms. Ramsawack learned of this from Valley Alliance of NC meeting by Mary Benson of

SVANC. Investigated--leasing agent said no one coming in there for medical marijuana. There is a dispensary now on Whitsett and Sherman, across from Chevron station. Board agreed site not within our jurisdictional area.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

Dr. Chang – Outreach Chair doing excellent job, but only technicalities that we need to consider.

Mr. Freedner – attended Nat'l Night Out event at Victory/Vineland – sparsely attended. Possibility of installing a plaque at Valley Center Park perhaps on a bench or lamppost, “in memory of Loretta Luse.” Will contact City representatives to determine feasibility and cost and report back next month.

Ms. Dorick – per Barry Stone, we will get restitution from former Treasurer, doesn't know amount, depends on plea arrangements, etc.

Ms. Ramsawack – Stakeholders Ben Moore and Al Pelayo were interested in filling vacant Board seats. Mr. Pelayo declines. Mr. Moore, still interested, possible At-Large Representative. Mr. Moscoso directed that filling at least one vacant seat be put on the agenda for next month's meeting.

Also – requests agenda item, different monthly meeting date to accommodate participation in Valley Alliance of NC's – all other 31 NC's are attending. Amend 2 of our 5 official posting locations, remove Park Plaza Apartment and add Strathern St. School, and drop United Nations Soccer League in favor of Arminta Elementary School. Also, agenda item, amend By-Laws to include By-Laws Committee as a standing committee and add Land Use, Public Safety and other committees that other NC's now have. All should learn about Brown Act and DONE rules as they concern our NC.

Mr. Moscoso – let's try to remain a congenial body. Ms. Ramsawack probably does more than any other Board member, all meant for a good cause, but we do need to clarify some ground rules. And, think good thoughts for Randal Luse during his hard times. Perhaps put times in agenda issues, if a long report is to be presented in an agenda item, why not email it to Board members in advance so all will have time to read and review it.

ANNOUNCEMENT: Mr. Moscoso – will check with Strathern School for availability of 2nd Thursday in September for our next meeting. Brief discussion as to whether the third Thursday can be scheduled at this time, before agendas go out. Afterthought – Ms. Dorick, perhaps make the food donation to Valley Interfaith “up to \$5,000.”

ADJOURNMENT: Motion (Ms. Pelych): adjourn. Second: Ms. Dorick. VOTE: 7 – Yes, 0 – No. Meeting adjourned 1:07 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

J. ERIC FREEDNER
Secretary