

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA

**NORTH HOLLYWOOD
NORTH EAST
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

BOARD MEMBERS of NHNENC:



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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

September 10, 2009

Strathern Elementary School, 7939 St. Clair Avenue, North Hollywood, CA

CALL TO ORDER: V-Pres. Ernie Moscoso called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM and led the pledge of allegiance. Sec. J. Eric Freedner took roll. Present were: Mr. Freedner, Al Henriquez, Ernie Moscoso and Philip Manson. However, Board members Sarah Ramsawack, Florence Dorick and Judy Harris-Brice arrived afterward, establishing a quorum. Dr. Chang arrived later in the evening.

COMMENTS FROM GOV'T REPRESENTATIVES: LAPD Officer Gabriel Ahedo left maps of crime statistics and mentioned an upswing of aggravated assaults and 2 homicides. Oct. 4: PALS Car Show on Riverside Dr., Oct. 14: Police haunted house. The Q-Star cameras have been set up. A new marijuana dispensary opened on Sherman Way. Ongoing problems with Mango Tango Club.

Eric Menjivar – Sept 26 Valley clean-up, 9 AM at Valley College. Funding secured for decomposed granite walkway at Valley Plaza Park. Suggests contacting the Commissioners of Rec & Parks re a plaque for Loretta Luse. City Council elections on Sept. 22. Candidates' forum Monday at Sherman Oaks NC.

Barry Stone of DONE – 9/12 – Valley Training, Braude Center, 8 -10 AM, how to de-escalate rowdy meetings, protect against stakeholders' lawsuits. Oct. 10 – Budget Day at City Hall, requests 2 reps from every NC, selected before 9/30. Board members can make changes to profiles on DONE website. Questions -- restoration of embezzled funds, suggested speaking with Funding about it; how new Board members are trained – nothing in place right now, DONE is studying issue; how to get onto Ch. 35, will enquire into getting our meeting dates and address on air.

Mr. Freedner noted that a quorum (7 members) was now in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by Mr. Manson to approve last month's minutes. Second: Mr. Henriquez. VOTE: Yes – 6, No vote – 1.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Karl Kunak filled out 5 speaker cards on different topics.

Assembly Bill 241, may put animal breeders out of business, please contact the governor. Requests \$1,000 for equipment, eating and cooking purchases for Valley Rescue Mission at 7400 Tujunga Avenue. At Valley Interfaith, no background check done as to people's need, this charity screens people so the truly homeless receive food. A Board member needs to go with Mr. Kraft to purchase the food items. Mr. Moscoso directs this be put on our agenda for next month.

Mr. Kunak then requested 3 additional cameras for Arminta School, to secure bungalows. Reminds Board that David Hernandez had moved to spend up to \$5,000 on security over a year ago but the Board never spent all those funds. Introduced new principal, Christopher Clark, who was impressed by what's at the school and very grateful for the cameras. New equipment such as computers to be put in bungalows, additional security is needed. Mr. Moscoso noted that Mr. Clark had graciously invited our NC to meet at Arminta School anytime. Mr. Moscoso directed this be placed on next month's agenda for further discussion.

Mr. Kunak showed the Board proof that Arminta Street School mentioned the NC and thanked us a year ago. Then spoke about Mary Benson, City Council candidate, Dist. 2.

Mr. Moscoso directed another agenda item for next month: multiple speaker requests by the same person.

Peter Sanchez – another candidate for District 2, helped form Neighborhood Council Valley Village and establish our NC boundaries, has lived within district for past 17 years.

DISBANDING OUTREACH COMMITTEE: Mr. Freedner moved: that the current Outreach Committee be dissolved, and reformed. Second: Ms. Harris-Brice. Mr. Freedner expressed dissatisfaction with the current Outreach Committee and its Chair. Mr. Stone – the Board needs to draft Standing Rules to clarify how committees are structured, meetings are run, communication, etc. Outreach and By-Laws always should be standing committees, By-Laws can also work on Standing Rules. Ms. Ramsawack questioned the legality of this motion, the By-Laws state the President prepares the Agenda and Mr. Luse did not put this item on. Further discussion, Mr. Freedner has prepared the Agendas but communicates with Mr. Luse, and the rest of the Board, as to what is on them. Specifically, Mr. Luse did not object to this item being included. Ms. Ramsawack spoke in defense of her work as Outreach Chair, takes pride in her work, she tries to talk to people and get them to join in our meetings. Further discussion; Mr. Moscoso notes we all have the same mission but maybe take another road to get there. But right now, all we'll do with this is hurt people's feelings. (Dr. Chang arrives.) VOTE: 2 – Yes 5 – No 1 – Abstain.

Mr. Moscoso promised to talk with Mr. Luse about standing rules for committees.

LAPD Officer Vasquez, who had arrived during the previous discussion, was given a few minutes to speak about crime in her area – car thefts, purse snatching through house windows, aggressive beggars – but crime generally down in her area.

FOOD DONATION TO VALLEY INTERFAITH: Discussion as to whether to donate \$5,000, now considering Mr. Kunak's earlier request for \$1,000 similar funding to another organization. Mr. Stone – suggests using a grant, the Valley Interfaith Council is asking for \$2,500 via grants from other NC's, also they are getting donations from other sources and seem to be raising plenty of money. Use a "Neighborhood Purpose Grant". Mr. Moscoso – will tell Valley Interfaith to submit such a grant request, table matter for now.

BY-LAWS COMMITTEE: Mr. Moscoso noted no changes can be made until after the 2010 elections. But, Mr. Stone said, it could work on Standing Rules. Mr. Henriquez identified current committee members as himself (Chair), Ms. Morin, Mr. Luse, Mr. Freedner, and Ms. Harris-Brice. But only 3 can be on committee; Ms. Harris-Brice agrees to drop out. Mr. Moscoso directed Messrs. Henriquez, Luse and Morin to meet and come back next month to present further ideas. Stakeholder Ben Moore requested to also be on this committee. Further discussion as to how many Board members can be at a committee meeting, Mr. Stone said additional Board members could attend but not be on the committee; or, if a number greater than 3 are expected to attend, post the meeting as a Joint Meeting of the Committee and Board of Directors.

HIRING TRANSCRIBER: Ms. Ramsawack noted that someone needs to take accurate minutes when the secretary is absent. Mr. Stone – go through approved temp employment agencies such as Apple One – Maybe \$20/hour. Further discussion including form of minutes (detailed vs. outline). As to transcriber, Mr. Manson suggested tabling until we get more information on costs.

ELECTION TO FILL BOARD SEAT: Mr. Stone recommended "transparency", let the community know of a vacancy, there appears to be no transparency right now. Ms. Ramsawack wondered if we should wait until the April elections before filling any vacancies, but Mr. Stone suggested we being advertising Board vacancies now, "get the word out!" Mr. Freedner said it was uncertain whether filling Board seats was to be done by the City Elections rules or by such means at individual NC Boards choose. Ben Moore submitted a candidate form and said he's attended meetings for months, wonders if any flyers put out would attract "carpetbaggers" and said some criticism of the Board is justified and it is frustrating.

Mr. Moscoso suggested we be transparent and find candidates by our next meeting. However, Ms. Ramsawack moved: that we accept the candidacy of Benjamin Moore to fill the At-Large vacancy on the Board tonight. Second: Ms. Dorick. Mr. Moore said he is not part of the Neighborhood Watch group but lives east of its area since last April, has been part of the Outreach Committee and served on similar boards in the past. VOTE: 6 - Yes 2 – No.

Mr. Stone clarified, his term on the Board by this election is only until the upcoming City elections.

CHANGING DATE OF MONTHLY MEETINGS: Mr. Moscoso asked the Board if it wanted to change the monthly meeting date as the agenda item indicated. Ms. Ramsawack said we have been unable to attend the Valley Alliance of NC's monthly

meetings held the same night. Mr. Stone was uncertain if moving meetings to the first or third Thursdays would pose a calendar conflict for him. Mr. Manson suggested tabling until next meeting, and not take on any new agenda items. Mr. Henriquez suggested meeting more than once per month. Mr. Moscoso directed the meeting night issue be brought up again next month.

POSTING LOCATIONS: Mr. Freedner received a complaint from United Nations Soccer League that they would not continue to be an official posting location. Short discussion. The Board agreed to table this item until next month.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT: Mr. Manson handed out website proposal from Wendy Moore. \$5,000 set up cost, then \$4,500 per year to maintain. Who will be webmaster? – Mr. Moscoso thought the President should be, Mr. Manson said the Board nominated him as contact person to enter or delete data.

Ms. Ramsawack presented the draft of the newsletter. But the meeting place information may change; yet, she feels it must go out, 8 months' delay is too long. Messrs. Freedner and Manson suggested deletion of Loretta Luse's name as a board member. Motion by Ms. Ramsawack: That the NC newsletter, with the suggested correction of removing Ms. Luse's name, be sent out. Second: Dr. Chang. VOTE: 8 – Yes.

Ms. Ramsawack was unable to pick up a second post office box key. There has been a long delay in retrieving mail.

Due to the lateness of the hour, and the unavailability of the auditorium past 9:30 p.m. (which had already passed), Mr. Freedner moved to adjourn, with the understanding that any other agenda items be carried forward to next month. Dr. Chang seconded and by unanimous vote, the meeting ended at 9:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

J. ERIC FREEDNER
Secretary