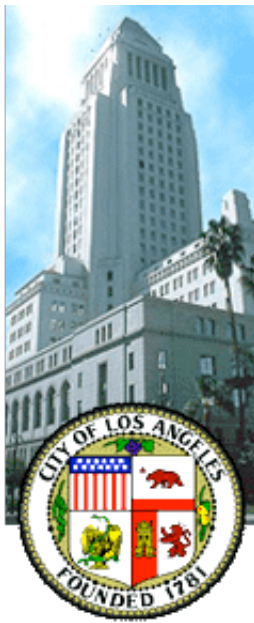


**BOARD MEMBERS NHNENC:**  
 Ernie Moscoso--President  
 Zeke Barragan--Vice President  
 Sarah Ramsawack-Secretary  
 Jeffrey Garner-Treasurer  
 John Basteghian            Judy Harris  
 Ruben Borges                Chuck Loring  
 Dr. Wung Chang            Ben Moore  
 Florence Dorick            Inez T. Morin  
 Edan Harris



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**NORTH HOLLYWOOD NORTH EAST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

**Thursday, February 21, 2013, 6:30pm to 9:30pm**

**Los Angeles Fire Station #89, Conference Room**

**7063 Laurel Canyon Boulevard, North Hollywood, CA 91605**

The meeting was called to order by President Ernie Moscoso at 7pm. The President led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to our American flag.

The roll was called by the secretary. Those present were Ernie Moscoso, Zeke Barragan, Jeffrey Garner, Florence Dorick, Edan Harris, Judy Harris, Chuck Loring, Ben Moore, and Sarah Ramsawack. There was a quorum. Absent were Ruben Borges<sup>1</sup>, Dr. Wung Chang, John Basteghian, and Inez Morin who had an excused absence.

Minutes for the special meeting of December 5, 2012, were up for approval. Ben Moore moved to accept the Minutes. Chuck Loring seconded. The vote was unanimous with nine (9) yes votes.

Minutes for the last regular meeting of January 17, 2013, were up for approval. Ben Moore moved to accept the Minutes. Chuck Loring seconded. The vote was unanimous with nine (9) yes votes.

Minutes for the second Council Retreat and Special Meeting of January 26, 2013, were up for approval. Ben Moore moved to accept the Minutes. Chuck Loring seconded. The vote was unanimous with nine (9) yes votes.

**GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES** Item #4 on the agenda

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<sup>1</sup> Ruben Borges arrived later so we had a total attendance of ten (10) Board Members.

Quincy Reid, deputy from office of Raul Bocanegra, State Assembly Member, District 3.<sup>2</sup>

Sulma Hernandez, deputy for empty City Council District #6, (to be filled from the upcoming election to replace Tony Cardenas who is now in Washington, D.C.<sup>3</sup>) spoke about the election for the new City Council Member for CD#6 on May 21, 2013.

Jackie Keene, deputy for CD#2 Paul Krekorian, spoke about the project on the West side of Whitsett for the Department of Transportation and the need for help from a Landscape Architect.

LAPD Officer Ceasar Contreras<sup>4</sup> from the Foothill Division came with recent crime activity maps. Officer Contreras said that in 2012 that the Foothill Division led the city in the reduction of crime with a 10% decrease. He said that we can track the crime nationwide as well as our local area by going to URL [www.crimemapping.com](http://www.crimemapping.com)<sup>5</sup>.

**AGENDA ITEM #5--Guest Speaker--Carmen Trutanich, Los Angeles City Attorney**

Mr. Trutanich said he had already visited some 65 of our 95 Neighborhood Councils. During his position as city attorney the economic problems of the city have caused a reduction of attorneys on his staff from 647 to 475, and there have been no hirings during the last four (4) years. The city attorney's office had an annual budget of \$117 million, and in 2009 the budget was cut to \$95 million.

The city attorney's office handles both criminal and civil cases with a total average of 75,000 to 85,000 cases per year. Part of the good news is that in the past four (4) years that crime in the city has decreased some 23%.

The city attorney describes his role as an independent legal advisor to the city of Los Angeles of 485 square miles.

Concerning the Neighborhood Council definitions, the city attorney defines the word Stakeholder as anyone who lives, works, owns property or business in the boundaries of the designated Council. Further, that the Factual Basis Stakeholder is he describes as anyone who attends a school, church or is involved in an organization in the designated Council.

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<sup>2</sup> Raul Bocanegra succeeded Felipe Fuentes, and the local office is at 9300 Laurel Canyon Blvd., 1st Floor, in Arleta, Ca. 91331, telephone number 818-504-3911.

<sup>3</sup> Tony Cardenas is now in the House of Representatives in Congress for the new California 29th district. There are six candidates on the Ballot for CD#6 on Tuesday, May 21, 2013.

<sup>4</sup> While our SLO Officer Esther Vasquez is recovering, other Officers are coming to share the news with us. (Officer Tim Walia has been reassigned, so we now meet Officer Contreras.)

<sup>5</sup> Click on California, scroll down to Los Angeles Police, grab the map surface and move to our area.

Currently the office of the city attorney has a staff of 150 paid lawyers working in the criminal section. There are presently 7,000 open law suits in progress, and there are 19 neighborhood prosecutors.<sup>6</sup>

Saving city monies is evident by the emphasis on a timely reply or answer to any civil complaint to avoid substantial penalties.

With the staffing cuts, Trutanich created a Reserve form of apprenticeship for budding law students. In this program over 300 graduates were unpaid Reserve students committed to over six months in the office of the city attorney. The students do various tasks and also garner experience in the court room as defense or prosecutor; thus with experience on their resume they can go into the market with good recommendations for future employment.

A social problem was created when in the year 2012, over 40,000 prisoners won early release from incarceration. Another social problem is the gang presence and graffiti injunctions.

Concerning the Occupy LA incident of last year, Trutanich said that there were many (480) arrests in one night. He stressed that the Right of Speech guaranteed in our first amendment to the Constitution is important, but that it does not protect an individual from the consequences of bad behavior or improper conduct. In the matter of Civil Disobedience we need to educate the people on how to protest lawfully.

In speaking about the irrational rash of gun violence over our nation, Trutanich says that from Arizona, to Newtown, to Aurora, Colorado, and Oklahoma, that the common factor is actions from mental illness. He said that in the City of Los Angeles, that over 200 gun sales occur every day of the week, and that gun dealers must file a Dealer Record of Sales<sup>7</sup> (DROS) on every authorized sale with a background check and a ten-day (10) waiting period.

Mr. Trutanich spoke on many subjects of social concern, and he invited all participants to walk with him on Skidrow on the first Wednesday of each month. We have to call the office of the city attorney in advance to learn the staging location for each walk.<sup>8</sup>

### **AGENDA ITEM #6--Presentation with DWP Liaison on the North Hollywood Water Project and monitoring of wells**

Greg Bartz our DWP liaison with three other specialists from the DWP will be working on a project soon that will be in our Neighborhood Council Area on Vantage

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<sup>6</sup> Prosecutors frequently work out of the Police Divisions and can be identified by calling our divisions.

<sup>7</sup> Google "Dealer Record of sale dros process" to learn more about purchase process and cost.

<sup>8</sup> Phone number for the office of the city attorney is #213-978-8132.

Avenue, just North of Stagg Street. Many years ago much of the East Valley did support the manufacturing of aviation equipment, with many chemicals involved. This industry preceded much of our current knowledge of how these chemicals can migrate into the ground water.<sup>9</sup> The DWP will be monitoring some 35 to 40 wells with ground water which are in the East San Fernando Valley. If these wells are found to be safe it can not only be a safe water supply but its volume can provide the potential of a rate reduction. The hydrologist said this testing program could secure safe water for the next twenty (20) years, and produce a flow of about 4000 gallons of water per minute. Each project site will have 24-hour security guard present. The Stagg/Vantage project is expected to begin about March 7, 2013, and require about three months to complete.

**AGENDA ITEM #7--Presentation by Patrick J. Kanan, Director of the Valley Plaza Park with request for funding of \$250 for the Spring Egg Hunt**

Mr. Kanan came to ask the Neighborhood Council for funding assistance for toys, candies, etal, and that we can have an information booth on March 28th behind the Romer Middle School, South of Archwood Street. The motion was made by Ben Moore to fund up to \$250 from line #202 for this event and the second was by Zeke Barragan. The motion passed by a vote of 9-yes, 1-no, and 0-abstentions.

**AGENDA ITEM #12--A representative from the Budget Advocates came to speak about the value of the Budget Survey**

Brandon Pender was one of the many<sup>10</sup> representatives that has worked very hard since November 17, 2012, where they developed the Budget Survey which gives every stakeholder and NC board member the opportunity to learn more about the source of the city revenues, and the outlay of the city expenses. The budget survey applies to the deficit in the General Fund.<sup>11</sup> The budget survey is online as the budget challenge at [la.budgetchallenge.org](http://la.budgetchallenge.org) and will be available until midnight on March 4, 2013.<sup>12</sup>

**AGENDA ITEM #8--PUBLIC COMMENTS**

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<sup>9</sup> A good portion of our drinking water can be supplied by underground water aquifers. If the aquifers become contaminated and unfit for human consumption, the city must buy water from the Metropolitan Water District, and MWD rates can increase.

<sup>10</sup> Over 150 representatives from the NC system attended the Mayor Budget Day in City Hall on November 17, 2012, and the two representatives from our NC were Inez T. Morin and Sarah Ramsawack. From all the attending representatives the next level of Budget Advocates was elected to develop a study culminated in the Budget Survey.

<sup>11</sup> Please review the report that your representatives did provide after the meeting of November 17, 2012.

<sup>12</sup> Every Board Member is urged to accept this challenge and review and answer the Budget Survey.

Robert Mercado of the Arleta Neighborhood WATCH came requesting as many signatures as possible on a petition to save the jobs of the office staff<sup>13</sup> from CD#6 during the absence of a seated City Council Member and into the position of a new City Council Member due to the election on May 21, 2013, to elect the new Member for CD#6.

## **AGENDA ITEM #9--BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Several board members spoke briefly about enjoying the food and fun of the NC Retreat of January 26, 2013. Jeff Garner commented that the \$2000 check to Hope of the Valley for the holidays had just been received. Jeff also wants to identify some needs of the Valley Plaza Library so that we may help them in the future. Jeff noted that the deadline is May 15th for getting demand warrants so that we can direct our money before the end of the fiscal year on June 30, 2013.

Florence Dorick had attended the meeting on Tuesday, January 30, 2013, at the Braude Center about how the Federal funds of some \$29 million is to be spent in our area.

Ben Moore spoke about the Website.

Sarah Ramsawack was speaking but was interrupted due to the maximum time limit. A prepared copy of her message was provided to each Board Member at the table.

## **AGENDA ITEM #10--**

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **#10- Committee Reports**

##### **(a) Outreach Committee**

Chair Person Judy Harris told Committee Member, Florence Dorick to make the report of their Special Committee Meeting of Thursday, February 21, 2013. Florence said that the Outreach makes the motion to spend \$11,000 to get another 72 of the current Neighborhood Council pole banners that help to increase the presence of the Council to the community. President Moscoso requested that the motion be submitted in writing, and that the committee chairperson must create and post the committee agenda the minimum of the 72-hour in advance of the meeting date per the Brown Act.

Florence Dorick also reported for the Outreach that Chair Person Judy Harris wants to have our Neighborhood Council participate in the air show on June 29, 2013 at Hansom Dam. This too, needs to be a motion in writing.

Outreach wants to have a board member assigned to each of the four elementary schools to act as liaison with the schools. Florence Dorick volunteered to

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<sup>13</sup> Office staff includes Sulma Hernandez and others.

work with Principal Anthony Aguilar at Strathern Elementary School. Jeffrey Garner volunteered to work with Principal Dora Pimentel-Baxter at Camellia Elementary. The liaisons for both Arminta and Korenstein Schools has yet to be designated.

**#10 (b) Land Use Committee**

Chair Person Sarah Ramsawack reported that the members of the Land-Use Committee have been working to learn more about the land and its uses in the boundaries of our Neighborhood Council. The next committee meeting (#2) will be on Tuesday, February 26, 2013, here at the Fire Station.

**#10 (c) City Services Committee**

Chair Person Zeke Barragan said the committee would meet at the Fire Station on Tuesday, March 19, 2013.

**#10 (d) Communications Committee**

Chair Person Ben Moore explained that the maintenance of our website is due for the next year and he moved to pay \$2500 from line #203 to the Wendy Moore Website Service and the motion was seconded by Sarah Ramsawack. The vote was taken and the motion passed with 10-yes votes, 0-o votes, and 0-abstentions.

**AGENDA ITEM #11--Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Jeffrey Garner handed out the forms from the bank on the credit card and the board members reviewed and asked questions about the itemization. Edan Harris made the motion to accept and approve the credit card report. The second was by Florence Dorick. The vote to approve the report was unanimous with ten (10)-yes. 0-no votes and 0-abstentions. Jeffrey Garner also stressed the updated DONE funding rules have to be supported with flyers and a copy of the Minutes where motions were approved.

**AGENDA ITEM #13--BOARD MEMBER VACANCIES**

Secretary Sarah Ramsawack reported that we have fifteen (15) seats on our Board, and currently have two vacancies: one vacant seat in the Resident category, and one vacant seat in the At Large category. Sarah Ramsawack introduced Ron Cross, as candidate for one of the vacant seats. Mr. Cross is a long-time resident, homeowner, and is currently a member of the Strathern Neighborhood Watch. He is now retired and wishes to be active for his community with the Neighborhood Council.

President Moscoso, said that Melonie McGruder, a stateholder, who has attended some of our meetings, has said she would like to join the board and work for the community. Ms. McGruder is absent tonight, but she would be considered for the vacancy of At Large.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**AGENDA ITEM #14--TO SUPPORT DOT SLOPE ON WEST SIDE OF WHITSETT AVENUE, TO CLEAN AND PLANT UP TO \$300**

Florence Dorick is working with Jim Kompare of North Hollywood West NC, and with Jackie Keene of CD#2, and others to beautify the slope that had a history of bad erosion adjacent to the DOT addressed at 12544 Saticoy South Street.

Ben Moore moved that our NC support the project up to \$300 from line #302 for supplies, drinking water, plants as needed. The second was by Judy Harris. The vote passed with 9-yes, 0-no, and 0-abstentions.

**AGENDA ITEM #15--VANC MIXER FOR March 14, 2013 to \$250.**

Sarah Ramsawack made the motion that our NC support the VANC Mixer in the amount of \$250 from line #202 for March 14, 2013. The second was by Judy Harris. The motion passed with 8-yes, 1-no, and 0-abstention.<sup>14</sup>

**AGENDA ITEM #16--VANC SUPPORT FOR CANDIDATE FORUM FEB. 23, 2013<sup>15</sup>**

Sarah Ramsawack moved that our NC support the VANC Mayoral and Controller Candidate Forum for February 23, 2013, for \$200 from line #202. The second was by Edan Harris. The motion passed with 6-yes, 3-no, and 0-abstentions.

Treasurer, Jeff Garner was serious about publishing a Stakeholder flyer for all events.<sup>16</sup>

**AGENDA ITEM #17--TO RECONSIDER THE MOTION OF 01-26-13 FOR EAST VALLEY BASEBALL**

Florence Dorick moved that we reconsider the motion made on January 26, 2013, at the Retreat, to fund \$1000 for East Valley Baseball, so that we might make a new motion to increase the support by another \$1500. This motion to reconsider the original motion died for lack of a second. President Moscoso, says we need to ask Frank Miceli for itemization of needs for the players. Jeffrey Garner, treasurer, says he is waiting to hear from Frank Miceli. The motion to add another \$1500 was declined by the president and he said that Frank Miceli needs to ask for the additional \$1500 with itemization of needs.

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<sup>14</sup> At this point 9:40pm Ben Moore had to leave for work demands. Quorum still remains.

<sup>15</sup> Two days later, on Feb. 23, 2013, in attendance at Candidates Forum, in conversation with Jill Barad she stated that with AT&T sponsorship NC donations were not needed, so this motion can die without any payments.

<sup>16</sup> New DONE guidelines requires a flyer and a copy of the Minutes for each dollar motion.

**AGENDA ITEM #18--for NHNENC to support and fund CERT program.**

The CERT program is free to the community by the Los Angeles City Fire Department. If the NC wishes to provide refreshments at the seven regular classes there might be an expense up to \$300. This idea of service to the community was discussed and seemed to die for lack of interest.

**AGENDA ITEM #19--ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05pm by consensus to next meeting on March 21, 2013.

Respectfully Submitted by

SARAH RAMSAWACK, Secretary