

**NORTH HOLLYWOOD NORTH
EAST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

Ernie Moscoso-----President
 Zeke Barragan-----Vice President
 Jeffrey Garner-----Treasurer
 Sarah Ramsawack---Secretary
 John Basteghian Rubin Borges
 Dr. Wung Chang Florence Dorick
 Ronald M. Cross Edan Harris
 Judy Harris Chuck Loring
 Ben Moore Inez T. Morin



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EAST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

P.O. BOX 16478
 NORTH HOLLYWOOD CA 91615
 MESSAGE PHONE #818-627-8505

NoHoNorthEastNC@gmail.com

Website:

www.nhnenc.org

NORTH HOLLYWOOD NORTH EAST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

MINUTES

REGULAR BOARD MEETING AND SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

Thursday, March 21, 2013, 6:55pm to 10:45pm

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 6:45pm. The President led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to our American flag.

The roll was called by the secretary. Those present were Chuck Loring, Judy Harris, Zeke Barragan, Jeffrey Garner, Ernie Moscoso, Ben Moore, Florence Dorick, Inez T. Morin, and Sarah Ramsawack. The quorum was announced. Four members were absent: Rubin Borges, and Edan Harris. Dr. Wung Chang, and John Basteghian were not excused.

The President proceeded with the regular agenda and made opening comments with welcomes to all the stakeholders and speakers. He spoke about the need to review Posting Locations for the agenda, about time allocations for the speakers, and the business of creating an agenda.

The Minutes for the regular meeting of February 21, 2013, were up for approval. Ben Moore moved to accept the Minutes as written. The second was made by Zeke Barragan. The vote was unanimous with 10-yes votes.¹

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

SLO Officer Ceasar Contreras from Foothill Division spoke for Officer Vasquez who is still recovering for an injury. Officer Contreras said the Department's next FREE deterrent to theft of vehicle license plates will be at the Target store at Osborne and Laurel Canyon on April 20, 2013.

¹ Rubin Borges arrived before the Minutes were approved so the member total was ten.

The Tip-a-Cop Fund-raiser to support the Police Jeopardy Program for High-Risk Youth will be at Bob's Big Boy on Thursday, April 4, 2013 from 11am to 7pm.

Jackie Keene, deputy for Paul Krekorian of CD#2, spoke enthusiastically about the anticipated over 100 volunteers in a cooperative effort to improve the West side of Whitsett Avenue on the coming Saturday, March 23, 2013, which involves both North-North Hollywood, and Strathern Neighborhood Watch, with both our Council and North Hollywood West NC, and students of USC, and others. The work crew will clear weeds beside the Dept of Transportation from Saticoy South Street on both sides of the United Pacific Railroad, to the corner of Raymer Street in planning for the Fall planting of California native plants that require minimal irrigation.

Sulma Hernandez on staff at the office of CD#6 spoke about the Home Gardening Program by the MEND now enrolling through March 31st at 10641 N. San Fernando Road, in Pacoima. Go to www.mendpoverty.org.

Brian Gavidia, also on staff for CD#6 spoke about how Tony Cardenas, now a member of the House of Representatives for District #29 and has three committee assignments: The Budget Committee, the Natural Resources, and the Oversight and Government Reform Committee.

From DONE, Thomas Soong is one of the six department analysts who assist the NCs. He spoke briefly about Funding, and the Ethics Training which is online for easy compliance.

Capt. John Ruedy, a six-year fire fighter at Station #89, spoke about the work in the community. The annual Open House will be coming on a May Saturday. He said that due to the City Budget cuts that the station has not lost any staffing to date. Capt. Ruedy said that Station #89 has an Urban Search & Rescue Unit.

Dianna Soukounian spoke for the Los Angeles Fire Department Foundation.² She explained that there are always at least 14-fire fighters per day at the Station.

Emily Lopez represented the Valley Plaza Library which is in our Council area.³ The library has had large stuffed chairs looking out into the green area of the Valley Plaza Park, and that the chairs have been worn out by frequent use by the Library patrons. She is requesting help to replace four upholstered chairs that can be wiped clean.⁴ Two different style chairs were pictured with prices. One style chair costs \$892.00 and the other style cost \$1,069.00 per chair.⁵

City Budget Advocate Brandon Pender spoke about the diligence and work of the Advocates, and that they are preparing a White Paper of recommendations to present to the Mayor and the City Council. He stressed that as of this date the Mayor has requested a 20% cut per Neighborhood Council beginning July 1, 2013, and to postpone the Council elections of 2014 to

² More can be learned about the work of the Fire Dept. Foundation at supportlafdf.org.

³ This was a blending of item #2 on the Special Board meeting Agenda.

⁴ Librarian Kelly Tyler has been promoted and will go to a new location. Her replacement will be in the library on April 4, 2013.

⁵ Later in the meeting, the Board discussed and took a vote on this issue.

the Fall of that year, and for the Councils to make a sizable payment for their elections. Brandon Pender stressed the importance of the motion suggested by Jay Handel to oppose these reductions in the ability of the Neighborhood Councils to work for their area and their Stakeholders. The Budget Advocates will meet in person with the Mayor on Wednesday, March 27, 2013.

Claudia Mejia represented Cal-Trans and told about the status of the eleven construction projects on the South-Bound I-5, and that ramp closures will be reopened as soon as possible.

Item #6 of Regular Agenda is--Alexandra Nagy represented the Food & Water Watch, an oversight group, and she explained the impact on Los Angeles tax-payers with the project in San Joaquin Valley and the construction of Water Tunnels.⁶ Depending on the actions from the City Council this can cause the cost of water to increase in Los Angeles. Nagy provided a form letter that our Council can sign and send to the City Council to oppose making these rate charges for water that will not reach Los Angeles residents⁷ President Moscoso moved to send a letter to oppose the actions of the City Council, per Jackie Keene, to address the letter to Matt Hale, liaison for CD#2, and the motion was seconded by Zeke Barragan. The vote was 10-yes, 0-no, and 0-abstains.

Item #7 on the Regular Agenda is Laura Nieto who described on Program by RePower. The program is for residents and small business owners and helps to save energy with the same level of functionality. By state mandate, the LADWP must meet a 10% goal of Energy Efficiency by January 1, 2014.⁸ We can expect to receive mailers from the DWP toward the end of March.

Item #8 on the Regular Agenda --There were no comments from the public.

Item #9 on the Regular Agenda is Board Member Comments.

Sarah Ramsawack began to explain what is happening in the work on the City Budget and reported that only four of our board members had taken the Mayor's Budget Survey. The Budget Advocates have worked and we can expect that for the first time in our history, that we will be 'at the table' at a meeting of the City Council.⁹ She was explaining the requests of the Budget Advocates, and wanted to offer the letter that President Moscoso had sent on Email. The manner of discussion did not permit completion. And the vote for action from this NC could not be completed.

Florence Dorick proposes having a site where there can be a Memorial with the American Flag to honor those who served in Afghanistan and in Iraq. She hopes this can be on the agenda in July, 2013. She also wants to support the Genesis House in Pacoima which protects and houses women and children from abusive and violent conditions. She wants to use \$2,500 which can provide kitchen ware and tools and security camera.

⁶ This is item #6 on the Regular Board Agenda.

⁷ More information can be found at www.foodandwaterwatch.org.

⁸ Learn more at www.energy.ca.gov/title24/

⁹ This meeting with the City Council was actually Monday, March 18th, and the presentation was by Dr. Dan Wiseman. He demonstrated two unattempted sources of revenue for the city and asked that our annual allotment be restored to \$50,000 per NC, and two other points.

Ben Moore is concerned with the lateness of the hour and we still have not conducted any of our business on the agenda(s).¹⁰ He expressed the need for a better organization on the agendas for us to conduct business.

Jeffrey Garner agrees that the agenda needs to use the meeting time more efficiently.

Zeke Barragan wants to get a list of city services for us to put on the Council Website.

Chuck Loring agrees with Jeffrey Garner and with Ben Moore about the use of agenda time.

OLD BUSINESS

Item #10 on the Agenda--Standing Committee Reports

a. (1) Outreach Committee--ChairPerson, Judy Harris--made the recommendation to expand the existing Pole Banner Display for the NC with another 36 banners, with a change in design, and to add six banners of the 'old' design and six banners of the new design, for a total purchase of 48 banners for a total cost of \$7249. The recommendation-motion made by the ChairPerson was seconded by Ernie Moscoso. The vote was 7-yes, 4-no, and 0-abstain.

With money movements in the budget by the Treasurer, the total will come from line #302.

(2) Florence Dorick, from the Outreach Committee, moved that the **Partners in the Community** banners for Camellia Elementary School and the Julie Korenstein School be replaced because of the damage done by the graffiti and the attempts to clean the banners. The work to replace the banners can be done by Thomas Graphics at the total cost of \$396.76. By moving funds in the budget the total can be paid from the amended line #401.

b. The Land-Use Committee reported how they have been working to become acquainted with the places and peoples on our designated area. The third and next committee meeting will be in the Fire Dept. Conference Room on Thursday, April 4, 2013. There will be a guest speaker to help the committee members to know better how they can serve their community. The speaker will be Karo Torossian, Planning & Land-Use Deputy for CD#2, Paul Krekorian.

c. Zeke Barragan will advise the next meeting time for City Services and try to have a list of the City Services for the members.

d. Ben Moore, ChairPerson of the Communications Committee made the motion that to re-design the Roster page that is on the roster table so that the user can 'OPT in and Out' for their name to be on the Neighborhood Council mailing list. Rubin Borges made the second. The vote was unanimous with 11-yes votes, 0-no, and 0-abstains.

Item #11 on the Agenda---Treasurer's Report-

Treasurer Jeffrey Garner provided to each Board Member a copy of the current budget status for this NC and a copy of the US Bank statement dated 02-21-13 for recent credit card payments. Of the \$37,000 allotment for fiscal year 2012-to 2013, we have to date spent \$11,128.89 we have a balance of \$25,871.11 to spend before the deadlines for the close of the current fiscal year on June 30, 2013. The Board had the opportunity to ask questions

¹⁰ At the time of this comment it is 9:15pm.

concerning the P-card purchases. Ben Moore moved to accept the report and it was seconded by Florence Dorick. The vote was unanimous with 11-yes, 0-no, and 0-abstains.

Item #12 on the Agenda--

Concerning the establishment of the ad hoc committee to study and present to the Board a set of Standing Rules, Sarah Ramsawack was trying to respond to the question of WHY we need to have Standing Rules. Immediately, President Moscoso said that he would Chair the committee with Vice President Zeke Barragan. Sarah Ramsawack stated that she had been working and asking for this committee for over two years and had wanted to Chair the committee. She was told that she could be a participant on the committee and Judy Harris also volunteered to participate. President Moscoso said that he would advise when the committee would meet. Private conversations became disruptive and no motion was made to establish the committee. No vote was taken and the business of next item on the agenda was announced.

Item #13 on the Agenda--

Filling vacancies on the Board, Mr. Ron Cross was introduced to the Board in February 2013. Sarah Ramsawack moved to accept Ron Cross and the second was by Zeke Barragan. The vote was unanimous with 11-yes, 0-no, and 0-abstains. Ron Cross was sworn into the membership by Capt. John Ruedy who led him in the Pledge. Ron Cross took his seat as member At Large. This brings the membership total to fourteen seats on the Board.¹¹

NEW BUSINESS

Skipping to Item #18 on the Regular Agenda--and Item #6 on Special Agenda

Capt. John Ruedy of the Fire Station #89, presented a list of needed items for the station. This list¹² of eight items includes laundry washer and dryer. The calculated cost plus taxes equals \$3,432.12. Zeke Barragan moved to provide the amount of \$3,432.12 for the Fire Department Station #89 as requested. The vote was 11-yes, 1-no, and 0-abstains.

Back to Item #14 on the Agenda--

To meet the May 2013 Renewal date for the storage facility space for property of the Neighborhood Council, Ben Moore moved to pay the charge of \$720 and the motion was seconded by Chuck Loring. The vote was unanimous with 12-yes, 0-no, and 0-abstains.

Item #15 on the Agenda--

Concerning the \$350 to renew the Post Office Box, the matter was tabled to the meeting on April 18, 2013.

Item #16 on the Agenda--

Regarding the needs of the Graffiti Busters, Zeke Barragan moved that the Council provide up to \$1000 for supply needs of Graffiti Busters, and the second was by Ernie Moscoso, to be paid from line #301 of the budget. The vote was 10-yes, 2-no, and 0-abstain.¹³

Item #17 on the Agenda--In an effort to increase the support for East Valley Baseball, Sarah Ramsawack moved that we add \$1500 to our funding for the youth. She reported that when the

¹¹One board vacancy remains in the category of Resident.

¹² See attachment #1 at the end of this document for total of \$3,432.12.

¹³ At this point (10pm) in the meeting, Ben Moore had to leave. A quorum remained.

EVB roster was volunteered by Frank Miceli, she carefully analyzed the addresses to verify residence in our Neighborhood Council area. Then the analysis was broken down to how many lived North of Saticoy in the Foothill Police Division, and how many players lived South of Saticoy in the North Hollywood Police Division. Of the almost 180 players in our Council area, about 70% lived in the Foothill Division and the other 30% lived between Saticoy and Van Owen Streets.¹⁴ The motion was seconded by Florence Dorick. The vote was 4-yes, 6-no, and 0-abstains.

It was mentioned that Tony Cardenas had paid for the toilet facilities with plumbing that were installed at the East Valley Baseball, and they are now operational. Sarah Ramsawack moved that a letter of appreciate be sent to Cardenas to thank him for his assistance at the EVB field. Zeke Barragan seconded the motion. The vote was 7-yes, 1-no, and 2-abstain.

Item #19 on the Agenda--

This was more of an announcement of a scheduled DONE training to be in Van Nuys in the Braude Center, from 8am to noon on Saturday, May 18, 2013. Some of the Board Members have already responded online for this event.¹⁵ There was no official Board Action taken on this matter.

Item #20 on the Agenda--

In anticipation of the Congress of Neighborhood Councils at City Hall on September 28, 2013, and the many expenses for the Event, and how the NCs need to contribute to the costs, Sarah Ramsawack moved that our Council fund up to \$500 to be a sponsor of the 2013 Congress to be in the budget line #202. The second was by Florence Dorick. The vote was 9-yes, 0-no, and 2-abstain.

Item #21 on the Agenda--

Concerning the City Budget cuts to the funding of the Neighborhood Councils, President Moscoso had prepared a letter, concerning the impact on the Neighborhood Council System, to be sent to the Mayor and all 15-Council Members. Zeke Barragan moved to send the letter and Florence Dorick seconded the motion. The vote was 11-yes, 0-no, and 0-abstains.¹⁶

Item #2 on the Special Agenda--

The photocopies of pictures of the desired stuffed chairs for the Valley Plaza Library were passed to the Board Members for viewing.¹⁷ After discussion and questions Jeffrey Garner moved to provide up to \$4,000 for the purchase of new chairs for the Valley Plaza Library. The motion was seconded by Zeke Barragan. By moving some funds in the Council budget, it was determined that the payment would be applied to line 401. The vote passed with 5-yes votes, 4-no votes, and 2-abstain votes.

Item #3 on the Special Agenda--The need to better control the length of time of all speakers, it was decided that an electronic time keeping system was best to remove the personal element

¹⁴ Per the analysis, the number of players in our NC are on the attachment #2.

¹⁵ Due to a typo on the Agenda, the wrong date of 5-16-13 was corrected to Saturday, May 18, 2013.

¹⁶ A copy of the letter regarding NC funding is in attachment #3.

¹⁷ At this point in the meeting, Treasurer Jeffrey Garner said we still had \$11,475 left in our NC budget.

from the timing experience. Ernie Moscoso moved to purchase an electronic timer for a cost of up to \$300.00 to be paid from line #103 of the budget. The motion was seconded by Zeke Barragan. The motion passed with 9-yes votes, 0-no votes, and 2-abstains.

Item #4 on the Special Agenda--

For use in public displays away from the Fire Station, Jeffrey Garner moved to purchase two 6-foot long folding tables with folding chairs and two table coverings with the NC logo and name for up to \$600.00 to be paid from line #103. Zeke Barragan made the second. The vote was 11-yes, 0-no, and 0-abstains.

Item #5 on the Special Agenda--

Concerning the lighting for the nocturnal soccer field and the installation of solar lights in the 4-acres North of Hart Street and the freeway pedestrian crossing, President Moscoso directed that a letter should be sent to Paul Krekorian of CD#2 for a status on the arrangement made in 2009 and the need for a response on this matter. Then to report back with the status to the Board at the April meeting.

Item #6 on the Special Agenda--LAFD equipment

This item was done under New Business and can be see on page #5.

Item #7 on the Special Agenda--

Outreach ChairPerson, Judy Harris, moved to use two 500-seat capacity theaters at the Valley Plaza Regency Theater which is at 6355 Bellingham Avenue, South of Victory Boulevard for a Saturday (date and movie title to be determined)at a cost of up to \$3,000.00 with flyers to advertise the Neighborhood Council Movie Event. The motion was seconded by Edan Harris. The motion passed with 8-yes votes, 2-no votes, and 1-abstain vote. The treasurer in moving funds in the Council Budget will pay for the Movie Event from line 202, before the deadline of June 15, 2013.

The question was asked aloud for who would be working the Easter Egg Hunt Schedule and there were no answers before the motion was made to adjourn the meeting. Treasurer, Jeffrey Garner said that after the evening's work that we still have some \$3,500.00 left in the budget.

At 10:45pm the motion was made and by consensus to adjourn the meeting was closed until the next meeting on April 18, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,

SARAH RAMSAWACK, Secretary

Attachment #1--Request from Fire Station #89

Attachment #2--Analysis of Youth that play at East Valley Baseball

Attachment #3--President's letter to the Mayor & City Council regarding NC Funding