



**Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council**

8720 Sunland Blvd  
 Sun Valley CA 91353-0457  
 Telephone 818-767-8262

**Website:** WWW.SVANC.COM

**Regular Board Meeting MINUTES**  
**Tuesday, March 12, 2024**  
**6:00 pm – 7:50 pm**

**Meeting At**  
**Sun Valley Branch Library**  
 7935 Vineland Avenue  
 Sun Valley, CA 91352  
**Zoom Webinar ID # 987 6658 0221**

\* No training sessions completed, not eligible to vote \*\*No funding training, not eligible to vote on fund matters

BOARD MEMBER	BOARD POSITION	PRESENT	ABSENT	NOT VOTING ELIGIBLE
Almanza, Juaquin (illness)	Business Property Owner		X	
Chávez, Norma O. <b>President</b>	At-Large Stakeholder Director	X		
García, Rosalio	Residential Stakeholder Director	X		
Gonzalez, Hector	Residential Stakeholder Director	X		
Hill, Emilie A	Residential Stakeholder Director	X		**
Kim, Ian (illness)	Youth Representative Director		X	**
Mares, Lionel	Residential Stakeholder Director	X		
Moore, Mariam	Residential Stakeholder Director	X		
Sierra, Douglas <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President</b> 6:10 PM	Business Stakeholder Director	X		
Tascian, Leticia (illness)	Senior Representative Director		X	
Thum, Wendy	Residential Stakeholder Director	X		
Vacas, Monica <b>1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President</b>	Business Stakeholder Director	X		
Valle, Cindy I. <b>Treasurer</b>	Business Stakeholder Director	X		
Venegas, Eddie <b>Secretary</b> (work)	Business Property Director		X	
Virgen, Symbria	Business Stakeholder Director	X		
<b>TOTAL: 15</b> <b>Quorum: 7 (at least one officer)</b>	<b>11 Present, 4 Absent, 2 Ineligible</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>

Please copy and paste to your browser the link for full meeting video

[https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/HvrxRxqRxOvcqd4BRJeGBKSmpfog4dxBnK-KbY\\_I5Hkd23JNabQIFMEKSk4yFw.beMkC3Z0xT4qIHkV](https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/HvrxRxqRxOvcqd4BRJeGBKSmpfog4dxBnK-KbY_I5Hkd23JNabQIFMEKSk4yFw.beMkC3Z0xT4qIHkV)

**ITEM 1: Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call, Code of Civility**

Norma O. Chávez, president, called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. and began the meeting by welcoming all those present, leading the Pledge of Allegiance and the Code of Civility. Roll call was taken by Symbria Virgen and quorum was established with 11 members present at the time of roll call.

**ITEM 2: Opening Remarks (President)**

Norma O. Chávez presented flyers of various events taking place in the community. She announced that the April SVANC board meeting will be held online only as the library will be closed from March 25 to April 16 for floor work.

**ITEM 3: EMERGENCY** Personnel from Fire and Police departments will always be allowed to address the Board when they are ready in order to facilitate their schedule

**A.** Senior Lead Officer Eric Perez, [38338@lapd.online](mailto:38338@lapd.online), mobile (818) 634-0755

- Thanked the board for allowing the LAPD to go first in the agenda
- Aggravated assault has increased. There is one more incident compared to last year at this time. Robberies have gone down. Homocide has gone down. Grand theft auto has increased, so the division in having a steering wheel club giveaway for KIA and Hyundai cars.

**B.** Senior Lead Officer Cesar Contreras, [38338@lapd.online](mailto:38338@lapd.online), mobile (818) 634-0854

- Scams at banks have increased. People are going around asking for help cashing checks because the banks are closed and they have emergencies. The target has been young and old people. Once they get the checks and try to cash them the checks have no funds. Many of these incidents have happened at Chase on Laoreal Canyon Blvd.
- DeGarmo will have a cannabis street festival on April 21. Permits have been approved to close the street.
- Two to three search warrants continue to be serve in Sun Valley for illegal cannabis growth. Sheldon St has many of those locations.

**C.** Senior Lead Officer Gabe Ahedo from the North Hollywood Station, [33107@lapd.online](mailto:33107@lapd.online), mobile (818) 634-0949

- Introduced himself and shared about his background with the LAPD.
- He was grateful for the invitation to attend SVANC’s meetings. He usually attends those in North Hollywood.
- He provided updates on the crime for the area under SVANC’s boundaries: there was a shooting on West Tujunganga by Farmdale and Saticoy. The victim got hit on the leg.
- Theft at the store DSS has increased.
- He will follow up with Norma Chávez regarding a cannabis storefront, Cana Roots, on Sherman Way.

**ITEM 4:** Presentation by Armin Gharai regarding a 39-unit, 100% affordable housing, four story apartment project to be located at 8016 N. Fair Ave. in a R1-1-CUGU zone. CPC-2023-6037-DB-HCA ENV-2023-6038-EAF **NOT PRESENT**

**ITEM 5: Motion / Discussion / Vote** to approve a letter/resolution/CIS regarding the 39-unit, 100% affordable housing, four story apartment project to be located at 8016 N. Fair Ave. in a R1-1- CUGU zone. Rosalío García moved and Monica Vacas seconded. Ms. Chávez explained that during the PLUM meeting, the committee members were under the impression that this was under the Executive Directive1 because the City was mentioned requesting 52 units and that the applicant had lowered it to 39. However the committee members attended the hearing and it was clarified that it was not an ED1 project. PLUM had already approved the letter presented in this motion and so they felt they had to present it as approved in the committee.

Norma Chávez moved to amend the motion to read, **“Motion / Discussion / Vote** to approve a letter/resolution/CIS opposing the 39-unit, 100% affordable housing, four story apartment project to be located at 8016 N. Fair Ave. in a R1-1- CUGU zone.” Rosalío García seconded the motion. The motion to amend passed.

Yes-11 1 <sup>st</sup> Norma O. Chávez, 2 <sup>nd</sup> R. García	No - 00	Recused- 00	Abstained - 00	Not Eligible - 00	Absent - 04
Chávez, R.Garcia, Gonzalez, Hill, Mares, Moore, Sierra, Thum, Vacas, Valle, Virgen	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	Almanza, Kim, Tascian, Venegas

The new motion reads, **“Motion / Discussion / Vote** to approve a letter/resolution/CIS opposing the 39-unit, 100% affordable housing, four story apartment project to be located at 8016 N. Fair Ave. in a R1-1- CUGU zone.” Discussion took place and the board felt it was best if the item was tabled and the letter was sent back to PLUM to draft a new letter that

opposes the project and it would include all the points made by the board as to why the 39-unit apartment complex is not approved for this area. Norma Chávez moved to table and Monica Vacas seconded. The board approved it unanimously.

**ITEM 6:** Presentation / Announcements from elected officials or their representatives

- A.** Rafael Gonzalez (Councilwoman Imelda Padilla, CD6, [rafael.a.gonzalez@lacity.org](mailto:rafael.a.gonzalez@lacity.org) )
- ADA curb ramps have been installed at various intersections of Sun Valley: Laurel Canyon Blvd. and Sheldon St. (all four corners), Laurel Canyon Blvd. and Wicks St, Laurel Canyon Blvd. and Peoria St.
  - Care and Careplus cleanups on Peoria and Bradley. (Mariam thanked him for these cleanups)
  - Working with Savannah Portillo on the Rory Shaw Wetlands Project
- D.** Jessica Guzman (Office of CA State Assembly member Luz Rivas, 43rd District, [jessica.guzman@asm.ca.gov](mailto:jessica.guzman@asm.ca.gov) )
- Thanked the SVANC for a nice Coffee and Conversation event with the Assembly member Luz Rivas
  - The legislature session has started with 6 bills; two of them are related to homelessness, AB 799
  - There is a community event , free Tacos and Taxes, in Panorama City on March 30 from 10 am to 2:30 p.m.
  - Saturday, April 6 there will be a Cindy Montañez community cleanup and resources in San Fernando
- E.** Savannah Portillo Heap (Office of LA County Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath, 3rd District, [SPortillo@lacounty.bos.gov](mailto:SPortillo@lacounty.bos.gov) (213) 595-9198)
- Any matters pertaining to the LA county, it was recommended they get sent directly to Savannah
  - The office of the supervisor is reaching out to other elected officials to advocate for funds for the Rory Shaw Wetlands project
  - Whiteman Airport – Board motioned to introduce unleaded fuel
  - Metro East – San Fernando Project holding community meetings at Panorama Presbyterian Church in March from 6:00 to 7:30 pm
  - Tujung wash – cleanup 55 cubic yards of debris removed. The wash is county property.
  - Working with SVANC to schedule Coffee with the Supervisor event.
- I.** Katherine Castrejon (Office of CA State Senator Caroline Menjivar, 20th District, [Katherine.Castrejon@sen.ca.gov](mailto:Katherine.Castrejon@sen.ca.gov) )
- A bill has been introduced to end leaded fuel usage
  - SB 759 – equity, menstrual products provided by Medicaid.
  - April 27 - cleanup on freeway
- J.** Lionel Mares (Budget Advocate, Region 1, [lionel.mares@svanc.com](mailto:lionel.mares@svanc.com))
- March 2024 – homeless budget for services is for \$1.3 billion: \$250 million from City's general fund, \$226 m from City's departments, \$262 m from HHH, \$150 m from Measure ULA. The City is anticipating a gap of \$350 to \$400 million next fiscal year.
  - Budget Day is on Saturday, June 15, 2024 at City Hall
  - City Controller Kenneth Mejia released an update regarding the homeless Inside Safe

**ITEM 7:** Comments from the Empower LA Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate (NEA) Lorenzo Briceno ([lorenzo.briceno@lacity.org](mailto:lorenzo.briceno@lacity.org)) – The legislative report was emailed to all board members. There will be a code of conduct training. The Women's Leadership event will take place on March 28 from 6:00 to 8:00 pm at City Hall. Bylaws amendments are due on April 1.

**ITEM 8:** GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS which are within the Board's subject-matter jurisdiction (comments only, no discussion)

Arturo Gonzalez who is a resident of Sun Valley representing Jacobs Renovate of Donald C. Tillman Advance Water Purification Facility encouraged distributing their flyer.

Jennifer Sanchez – made commentary

**ITEM 9:** Board Member Comment on matters within the Board's subject-matter jurisdiction that DO NOT appear on the agenda (comments only, no discussion)

Lionel Mares recommended that SVANC's resolutions and CIS be submitted in a more timely manner.  
 Mariam Moore requested that letters be sent in a more timely manner.  
 Norma Chavez shared that the April meeting will be virtual because the library will be closed due to floor work

**ITEM 10: Motion / Discussion / Vote** to approve a letter of support for Hajra and Amir Abbasi for their application for a Conditional Use Permit to extend their family daycare to a daycare center located at 7541 N. Claybeck Ave., Burbank (LA City), CA. (Chávez, PLUM) The motion was approved with 10 vote in favor.

<b>Yes-10</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Mariam Moore, 2 <sup>nd</sup> R. Garcia	<b>No - 00</b>	<b>Abstained - 01</b>	<b>Not Eligible - 00</b>	<b>Absent - 04</b>
Chávez, R.Garcia, Gonzalez, Hill, Moore, Sierra, Thum, Vacas, Valle, Virgen	NONE	Mares	NONE	Almanza, Kim, Tascian, Venegas

**ITEM 11: Motion / Discussion / Vote** to approve holding National Night Out on August 6, 2024 (with details to come) at one of the Sun Valley Parks. The Emergency Preparedness committee will work on the planning. (Venegas, Emergency Preparedness) Discussion took place. The motion was approved with 10 votes in favor.

<b>Yes-10</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Cindy Valle / Monica Vacas, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Rosalío García	<b>No - 00</b>	<b>Abstained- 01</b>	<b>Not Eligible - 00</b>	<b>Absent - 04</b>
Chávez, R.Garcia, Gonzalez, Hill, Moore, Sierra, Thum, Vacas, Valle, Virgen	NONE	Mares	NONE	Almanza, Kim, Tascian, Venegas

**ITEM 12: Motion / Discussion / Vote** to approve a series of presentations and Workshops by the Public Safety & Emergency Preparedness Committee that include: stop the bleed, CPR hands-on only, Active Shooter, Sextortion, and CERT. The presentations that can take place in the office will be presented during the committee's meetings. (Venegas, Public Safety & Emergency Preparedness)

<b>Yes-10</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> R. García 2 <sup>nd</sup> Cindy Valle/Monica Vacas	<b>No - 00</b>	<b>Abstained- 01</b>	<b>Not Eligible - 00</b>	<b>Absent - 04</b>
Chávez, R.Garcia, Gonzalez, Hill, Moore, Sierra, Thum, Vacas, Valle, Virgen	NONE	Mares	NONE	Almanza, Kim, Tascian, Venegas

**ITEM 13: Motion / Discussion / Vote** to approve having a SVANC Outreach table at the Spring Egg Hunt at the Sun Valley Recreation Center on Saturday, March 23 from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. The motion passed with 10 votes in favor.

<b>Yes-10</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Monica Vacas 2 <sup>nd</sup> R. Garcia	<b>No - 00</b>	<b>Abstained - 01</b>	<b>Not Eligible - 00</b>	<b>Absent - 04</b>
Chávez, R.Garcia, Gonzalez, Hill, Moore, Sierra, Thum, Vacas, Valle, Virgen	NONE	Mares	NONE	Almanza, Kim, Tascian, Venegas

**Note:** Consent calendar items are considered to be non-controversial and will be treated as one agenda item. There will be no discussion on these items unless an item is removed from the consent calendar, in which case it will be considered as time allows on the regular agenda. Any member of the Board may request that an item be removed.

**ITEM 14: Consent Calendar:** one motion and one vote

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on September 12, 2023 (Venegas)
- B. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on October 10, 2023 (Venegas)
- C. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on November 14, 2023 (Venegas)
- D. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on January 9, 2024 (Venegas)
- E. Approval of the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting held on January 16, 2024 (Venegas)

<b>Yes-09</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> R Garcia, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Symbria Virgen	<b>No - 00</b>	<b>Abstained - 02</b>	<b>Not Eligible - 00</b>	<b>Absent - 04</b>
Chávez, R.Garcia, Gonzalez, Moore, Sierra, Thum, Vacas, Valle, Virgen	NONE	Hill, Mares	NONE	Almanza, Kim, Tascian, Venegas

The motion passed with 9 votes in favor and the minutes for September 12, 2023, October 10, 2023, November 14, 2023, January 9, 2024, and January 16, 2024 were approved.

**ITEM 15: Report by Committee Chairs and Community Liaisons**

**A. Standing Committees**

1. Outreach/Community Affairs – Monica Vacas – item 13 of the agenda
2. Finance and Budget – Cindy I. Valle – Bills have been paid and SVANC is caught up with the office lease. There are three payments pending for LADWP, Spectrum, and Constant Contact due to lack of access to the accounts.
3. Beautification – Emilie A. Hill – Planning has taken place for the Glenwood Elementary Garden project. Save the date for Saturday, April 27 from 8:00 am to 11:00 am for a Clenaup at the Sunland north on ramp of the 5 Fwy in partnership with CalTrans and Senator Menjivar. Volunteers must be aged 21 or older, or 16 years old and up and be accompanied by a parent or guardian.
4. Planning and Land Use (PLUM) – Norma O. Chávez – Next meeting is on March 28 and we will have Public Works join us to provide updates on the Rory Shaw Wetlands Project. We also have a cannabis license pending confirmation of attendance.
5. Public Safety/Emergency Preparedness – Eddie Venegas – The committee motions were already included in the agenda. They are also working on bringing workshops and presentations during their regular scheduled meetings.

**B. Ad Hoc Committees:**

1. Environmental – Mariam Moore – Next meeting will take place on April 23
2. Homelessness – Monica Vacas – Next meeting will take place on April 18. There are plans on a major and final cleanup on Randall. We will discuss the protocol/steps for the cleanups.
3. Bylaws – Norma O. Chávez – Currently working on Bylaws with Wendy Thum, a special meeting may be called to vote on the Bylaws and Standing Rules
4. Elections – Norma O. Chávez – an email will be sent to board members with the names of all those members who are up for elections in 2025

**C. City-wide community liaisons:**

1. LANCC – Lionel Mares – proposing a CIS against the Brentwood, Pacific Palisades, and a third community being afforded the same privileges as neighborhood councils because they don't want to follow the same rules as NCs. A CIS against the Gondola project at Dodger Stadium was also discussed. The new code of conduct was discussed together with other trainings that every neighborhood council members has to take.
2. VANC – Monica Vacas, Douglas Sierra- next meeting is on Thursday, March 14
3. NCEPA – Eddie Venegas, Rosalio Garcia – no report
4. PLANCHECKNC – Norma O. Chávez, Mariam Moore – no report
5. NCBA – Lionel Mares – report provided under item 4 as a budget advocate
6. C-PAB – Norma O. Chávez – flyers brought for LAPD events
7. Homelessness Liaison – Monica Vacas, Emilie A. Hill – no report
8. NCSA – Lionel Mares – no report
9. LADWP-NC MOU – written report sent via email to the board

**ITEM 16: Public Comment on matters within the Executive Board's subject-matter jurisdiction that DO NOT appear on the agenda (comments only, no discussion) NONE**

**ITEM 17:** Board Members Announcements on matters within the Executive Board's subject-matter jurisdiction that DO NOT appear on the agenda (comments only, no discussion) NONE

**ITEM 18:** Adjournment @ 7:54 pm; 1<sup>ST</sup> Cindy Valle 2<sup>nd</sup> Symbria Virgen; 11 Yes

**THE AMERICAN WITH DISABILITIES ACT** - As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and, upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services and activities. Sign language interpreters, Translation Services, assistive listening devices and other auxiliary aids and/or services, may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment by email: [NCsupport@lacity.org](mailto:NCsupport@lacity.org) or phone: (213) 978-1551.

**PUBLIC ACCESS OF RECORDS** – In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the board in advance of a meeting may be viewed in the window of our OFFICE 8720 Sunland Blvd, Sun Valley, CA 91352 and on our website: [www.SVANC.com](http://www.SVANC.com) or at the scheduled meeting.

**Translation Services** - To ensure availability of Services or to request at least 3 business days prior to this council by contacting [secretary@SVANC.COM](mailto:secretary@SVANC.COM)

**PLEASE VISIT THE SUN VALLEY AREA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL WEBSITE**

[WWW.SVANC.COM](http://WWW.SVANC.COM)