

Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council
General Meeting
on
Tuesday, April 14, 2009
6:30pm – 8:30pm

Villa Scalabrini Retirement Center
10631 Vinedale Street
Sun Valley, CA 91352

Board Member	Title	Status
Mike O’Gara	President	Present
Mary Benson	1st Vice President	Present
Elidia Vasquez	2nd Vice President	Present
Karina Garcia Valles	Secretary	Present
Julie Monroy	Treasurer	Present
Susan A. Bartlett	Board Member	Present
Jon Eshbach	Board Member	Absence excused
Stephen Franklin	Board Member	Absence excused
Jerry Piro	Board Member	Present
Danielle Harmon	Board Member	Absent
Luis O. Medina	Board Member	Present
Manuel “Manny” de la Torre	Board Member	Present
Angel Silva	Board Member	Absent
Lee McTaggart	Board Member	Present
Rafael Cárdenas	Board Member	Absent
Carmen Perez	Board Member	Present
Dionisio Alcala, Jr.	Board Member	Absence excused
Arthur “Art” Sweet	Board Member	Absence excused
Nicholas Dalton Powell	Board Member	Present
Nick Perdaris	Board Member	Absent
Frank Felix	Board Member	Present

1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call, SVANC Pledge

- President Mike O’Gara took roll and with quorum met called the meeting to order at about 6:30.
- Susan led the Neighborhood Pledge.

2. Opening Remarks – Mike O’Gara

- Mike received two letters in the last three weeks from the Department of Public Works regarding raising the speed limits in five (5) mile increments on three different locations in Sun Valley:
 - Clybourn was split and they want to raise the speed limit in the area from Clybourn Ave over to Branford from 35 to 40 mph,
 - Clybourn over to Cohasset from 40 to 45 mph, and
 - Sheldon area from Laurel Canyon to Glenoaks from 35 to 40 mph.
- State law requires local police to do a speed-limit survey every seven (7) years in order to enforce the speed limit, but the LAPD has not been doing the surveys.
- Other NCs are very upset about the prospect of raising the speed limit throughout the City.

- There is a new sign on the Mervyn's building that states "Kohl's is Coming". Their projected opening date is September 27, 2009. They are supposed to have a job fair in April in order to hire 250 employees, but the date has not been announced.
- Mike suggested having a SVANC banner at Kohl's grand opening in September.
- Get well cards were passed out for the Board member's well-wishes for Jon and Stephen who are out due to surgeries.
- The City Clerk will have an election next year. They divided the City up in nine (9) sections and between March and June/July, they are going to have an election in each one of those areas.
- The SVANC's bylaws state that "annually after the election, there must be an election for the Board of Directors." Mike suggests following the SVANC's bylaws and next month an election should take place for a new Board of Directors; this item will be in May's agenda.
- Poly High had their play "Grease" with 70 kids involved (35 on-stage and 35 behind-stage).
- Voter registration forms are on the table for the City's elections on May 19th. Mike also thanked the volunteers who helped set up the room for this meeting.
- Mike sent out info to the Board about Crown Disposal's tour of their facility, but only three (3) members replied. Mike is considering scheduling the tour for Saturday, April 25th, time TBA, if Crown Disposal is available. Mike encouraged all Board members to reply and to try to attend.
- Mike, on behalf of Israel Salas-Office of Felipe Fuentes, announced a job and a career fair on Thursday, April 16th at the Pacoima Work Source Center on Glenoaks Blvd. Also, a citizenship workshop will be held on Saturday, April 18th at M.E.N.D. Center, 10641 San Fernando Road, Pacoima.
- A ribbon cutting ceremony will be held on May 27th for the new Byrd High School (*the name for the high school has not been chosen yet*).
- An Earth Fair will be held on Saturday, April 18th at Sun Valley Park from 10:00 am – 02:00 pm; there will be a work party before the fair from 08:00 to 10:00 am at Olinda Street Metrolink Pedestrian Bridge.

3. Emergency Personnel from Fire and Police Departments - Esther Vasquez, Senior Lead Officer, and Officer Michelle Rodriguez, Senior Lead Officer, LAPD's Foothill Division. Officers Michelle and Esther:

- provided copies of the area's crime stats, and asked the community to file a police report for all types of crimes, no matter how small, in order to have them documented.
- emphasized the need to lock your cars, lock your house windows and make sure you know where your children are at all times and that they are busy doing something productive.
- announced a Senior Lead Summit on Wednesday, April 15, 2009 at 6:30 pm at Strathern Street Elementary School, in Sun Valley.
- announced that crime is down by 9% in Officer Esther's area.

4. Presentation/Announcements from Elected Officials or their Representatives- Councilman Cárdenas

- Councilman Cárdenas extended an invitation to the community members to attend an L.A. City Council's Ad-Hoc Committee Meeting on Gang Violence and Youth Development on Thursday, April 30th, at 6:00 p.m. at Fernangeles Recreation Center. The Councilman added that the City has made a

commitment to have as many meetings as possible in the community to facilitate the attendance and participation of the stakeholders in City government.

- Julie Monroy asked if the Councilman was familiar with the CLASS (Clean and Safe Space – *a program targeted for areas with at-risk youth*) programs that will close at different parks throughout the City of LA and will leave only one park with this program in CD6. The Councilman replied that under the Mayor's request, the Director of the Dept. of Recreation and Parks had to present a proposal with program cuts for the Mayor's budget consideration; then the Mayor will present his proposal to the Budget and Finance Committee. However, it is expected that many of the parks will be affected because of the financial situation, but individual Council members will fight for programs in their districts during the budget process, and whatever parks' programs are cut will be identified in order to try to find other funding sources for these programs to continue.
- A stakeholder asked if there is an office number he can call to report a tagging problem in his neighborhood. A: The Councilman said to contact his regional office on Laurel Canyon or to contact his senior lead officer; and added that an option to identify the persons tagging is to install cameras.
- At the meeting attendees had a discussion with the Councilman about student truancy, the lack of parent supervision and involvement and the lack of after school programs for youth. Concerned was also expressed about the impacts the budget cuts will have on these issues due to lack of extracurricular activities for the youth.
- Erick Menjivar, CD2, recommended that the stakeholders attend the Budget meeting deliberations which will begin soon. He also suggested writing letters to the Budget and Finance Committee members to let them know about the programs and services that are under funded.
- Eirck also mentioned that the Voit Art Project's artist has the excavation permit and the contract has been signed is just waiting for the first check to be approved by the Cultural Affairs Dept. He will begin work on the median first and then on the art piece which will take about six weeks to complete. It is estimated that the whole project will be completed in approximately 12 weeks.

5. Comments from DONE Representative - none

6. Discussion of City plans for the Alternative Technology Project for Waste

Disposal - Department of Sanitation Consultants Miguel Zermeno and Rebecca W.

- The City is currently evaluating new alternative technology for processing the waste that is placed in the black bin.
- The City is separated into six collection districts, called wastesheds, each one generates approximately 200 – 900 tons per week which are produced from single family households in each wastesheds every day.
- The blue bin materials are taken to the recycling plant; the green waste bin waste is composted and given back to the community as mulch.
- The City is the leader in the nation in diverting waste from landfill currently at 64%, 12% higher than the state's average, and 25% higher than the national average.
- The City's has new programs that will help reach the goal of zero (0) waste.
- A Mayoral Directive for the Bureau of Sanitation is to investigate and research alternative technology facilities to assist the City of LA in reaching a goal of 75% diversion from landfills by 2013.

- The City has six wasteshed facilities and wants an additional facility outside the City's limits.
- Miguel can be reached at Miguel.zermeno@lacity.org or by calling 213-485-3617.
- One of the new technologies is Plasma technology which is used on board navy ships to burn trash at 1000° Fahrenheit.
- Waste facilities can only be built in M3 zone areas. Currently, M3 zones have been identified within the boundaries of a few Neighborhood Councils.
- The City sends about 3000 tons of trash per day to Sunshine Canyon.
- The Department of Sanitation has identified all the M2 and M3 zones and will have a public meeting in July to decide on the location to build an Alternate Technology Facility.
- The approximate cost to build an Alternate Technology Facility is between \$80 and \$500 million. It would have the capacity to take between 300 – 100 tons of waste per day.

7. Public Comments

- No public comment.

8. Board Member Comments and Committee Reports

- none

9. Committee Reports

- President: see item 2 above
- Treasurer: none
- Land Use: none
- Outreach: none
- Environmental/Bradley Landfill Ad-Hoc: none
- Ad-hoc office: none

UNFINISHED BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS

- **Item 10:** Discussion/Motion/Vote to buy canvas shopping bags with the SVANC's logo for outreach. Amount not to exceed \$1,800 (Julie Monroy)
 - The Board discussed purchasing 250 canvas bags with the SVANC's logo in black and white (at a cost of \$1,078.00) or in color (at a cost of \$1,737.98).
- Mary B. made the motion and was seconded by Karina Vallas to purchase the color canvas bags for \$1,737.98).
- The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Item 11: Vote to appoint Dany Palomino to the Board under the resident category.

- The motion was made by Mary and seconded by Lee.
- The motion carried unanimously.

Item 12: Discussion of Earth Day (O'Gara)

- No one volunteered to man an outreach booth which would require about four people.

Item 13: Discussion of East Valley Baseball. Possible Motion/Vote to assist the players to go to Cooperstown New York to play baseball.

- Mary made the motion and was seconded by Nicholas Dalton Powell in the amount of \$1,000.

- Motion carried unanimously.

Item 14: Motion/Discussion/Vote to help defray the costs of the upcoming May 30th Valley Congress to be held at Panorama City High School. Not to exceed \$1,500 (O'Gara).

- The Board agreed only if a full accounting of the monies is done and if payment is by check. The NC does not want to pay the vendors directly.
- Julie made the motion and was seconded by Mary B. in the amount of \$241.93.
- The motion carried unanimously.

Item 15: Motion/Discussion/Vote on Resolution that the City Council provide a seat at the Resource Table on LA Dept of Water & Power issues (Benson).

- Mary B. made the motion and was seconded by Julie.
- The motion carried unanimously.

Item 16: Motion/Discussion/Vote – a volunteer is needed to be the SVANC's representative on the City Clerk's Election Committee. (O'Gara).

- Stakeholder Mary Geyer from the Foothill Trails NC said that she had been attending the meetings and she would bring information back to the SVANC's Board.
- No one from SVANC was available to volunteer.
- No action taken by the Board.

Item 17: Motion/Discussion/Vote to appoint a finance Committee to work on the 2009-2010 SVANC's Budget due June 1st 2009.

- No finance committee will be formed. Julie Monroy will present a proposed budget to the Board at the May 2009 meeting.
- No action taken by the Board.

Item 17 (b): Possible Discussion/Motion/Vote to approve any letters to the Planning Dept with comments from the SVANC's Planning Committee on any proposed planning issues in Sun Valley (Mary B.).

- No letters proposed.
- No action taken by the Board.

Item 18: Review, correct and approve the minutes from SVANC's March 10, 2009 regular meeting.

- Minutes will be reviewed and approved at the May 2009 SVANC's regular Board meeting.

Item 19: Public Comment: none

Item 20: ADJOURN – The meeting was adjourned at approximately 09:15 p.m.