

**Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council  
General Meeting Minutes  
for  
Tuesday, August 9, 2011  
6:30pm – 8:30pm**

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

Board Member	Title	Status
Angelica Dueñas	President	Present
Julie Monroy	1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Present
Mike O’Gara	2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Present
Robert Lim	Treasurer	Present
Karina Garcia Valles	Secretary	Present
Gary Aggas	Board Member	Present
Linda Housden	Board Member	Absence excused
Imelda Padilla	Board Member	Present
Susan A. Bartlett	Board Member	Absence excused
Monica Vacas	Board Member	Present
Art Kalantarian	Board Member	Present
Vic Hernandez	Board Member	Absent
Gerry Prieto	Board Member	Present
Guy Dionne	Board Member	Present
Josephine Navares	Board Member	Present
Nicholas Dalton Pawle	Board Member	Present
Fern Romans	Board Member	Absence excused
Carmen Perez	Board Member	Absence excused
Luis Medina	Board Member	Absence excused
Carlos Coronel	Board Member	Absent
Stella Arrington	Board Member	Present

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

- Angelica called the meeting to order at approximately 6:33 PM.
- The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and the Code of Civility was read
- Angelica took roll

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

- Mrs. Dueñas asked for 30 seconds of silence for the 31 fallen heroes-navy seals who died in Afghanistan the past week

**ITEM 2A: Ethics and Open Government Training** – Reminder for the members of the SVANC to complete Ethics and Open Government Training for City Officials. Please visit: <http://ethics.lacity.org/education/education.cfm>

- Mrs. Dueñas reminded the board members who have not completed the Ethics training to please do so as soon as possible.

**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. (Officer Esther Vasquez, Senior Lead Officer, and Officer Michelle Rodriguez, Senior Lead Officer).

- Officer Vasquez said that Officer Rodriguez is still out with an ankle injury; her return date is still not known.
- Officer Vasquez announced the following crime stats for July, 2011; a home robbery occurred on the 7600 block of Vineland by someone posing as a carpet cleaner; a couple of aggravated assaults; three business burglaries in Sun Valley; grand theft auto crimes have decreased; 3 burglaries of motor vehicles where property was stolen; 1 case of rent skimming/fraud—where a property is put up for rent, a possible tenant pays the deposit, etc., but turns out the whole transaction was a fraud because the property was never legally up for rent. The officer stressed to do thorough research before exchanging money for a rental property.
- Officer Vasquez distributed flyers about tips on what to do if you've experienced fraud, been cheated financially, etc.
- Officer Vasquez announced that Foothill is celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> year anniversary and will hold their yearly open house, October 8, 2011, 11 am – 4 pm, Foothill Division.

**ITEM 4:** Presentation/announcements from **elected officials** or their representatives.

- Mary Benson, CD2, announced that the Councilmember has advanced money to Sun Valley Graffiti Busters and North East Graffiti Busters so they can continue with projects like weed abatement, trash pickup, and irrigation where needed in the community. Mary asked the residents to make their requests to CD2 for this type of community abatement issues.
- Mary announced that Vicki Burch, founding member of SVANC, has been named to the Mayor's L.A. Angeles group--a distinguished group of about 10-15 people. She is also a member of the Sun Valley stakeholders water shed plan—a major project to collect the new storm water runoff, and civilian co-chair for the LAPD Foothill Area community police advisory board.
- Mary said that the LAPD Foothill Area community police advisory board will be meeting on Thursday, August 11, 2011, Japanese Brandford Language Center.
- Mary said that the National Night Out on August 2, 2011 was very successful. Mary added that she is going to try to revitalize the Neighborhood Watches, Block Clubs along Glenoaks Blvd. Mary said that CD2 has gotten a lot of complaints about the 5 Fwy widening project and gave a Caltrans Management office 24-hour hotline number for complaints (855) 581-9247.
- Olga Ayala, CD6, reported that as of this week she has been assigned to Sun Valley area only.
- Quincy Reeves, Assembly member Fuentes' office, announced the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Family Resource Fair, August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2011, San Fernando High, 9:00am-2:00pm.

**ITEM 5A:** Presentation from Andy Shrader of the *Mar Vista CC Green Committee* on the statewide Styrofoam ban on use in food containers and a citywide ban on plastic bags.

- Andy Shrader stated that last month the International program on (inaudible) came back with a report stating that the world's oceans are in terrible shape. The report warned that a high rate of ocean life is in danger of entering a phase of extinction if mitigation measures are not applied immediately.
- Andy mentioned two initiatives. The first Initiative has to do with banning Styrofoam food containers that has made it to the State Senate and is on its way through the Assembly. The Styrofoam containers are the number one contaminants on the beaches. The second Initiative SB568 is the ban on plastic bags in Los Angeles, it currently is in the Assembly Appropriations Committee, of which Assembly member Fuentes chairs.
- Andy's part of the presentation was inaudible on the recorder.

**ITEM 5B:** *LAANE* - Don't waste LA campaign - Greg Good will discuss their campaign regarding trash in the City of LA.

- Greg Good, member of L.A. Alliance for a New Economy, said that LAANE is a group of over 30 organizations, including, the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), the Sierra Club, Pacoima Beautiful, LAANE, Coalition for Clean Air, the County Federation of Labor, Teamsters, and others, who have united to help ensure that L.A.'s waste system service commercial and multifamily building and that it becomes a consistent source of clean air, good jobs and recycling alternatives.
- Mr. Good asked for SVANC's support to join the coalition in an effort to start a new waste pickup system to reduce trash and encourage more recycling options for businesses and apartment buildings.
- Greg added that this new waste system would be run by the City's Bureau of Sanitation and the Board of Public Works would act as an arbiter on the rights and, if this system is franchised, then they must be required to haul their waste to a City certified processing facility in proximity to or in the waste shed area or designated service center.
- Imelda handed a resolution to support this movement and asked for this Item to be included in next month's

agenda.

**ITEM 5C:** Presentation from the “Watch the Road” promotion. Promotion to educate the community to slow down while driving on school and park roads.

- No representative present, but will make presentation during September’s meeting
- Mike distributed signs regarding the “Watch the Road” promotion.

**ITEM 6A: Public Comment** on matters within the Board’s subject-matter jurisdiction. Members of the public are limited to **three (3) minutes** per speaker.

- Adrian Duran, Mayor’s office—Summer Night Lights is a gang reduction/youth development program located in 32 different parks in L.A. and it is the first year that it has been offered in Sun Valley Park, the program runs Wed – Sat, 7 pm -12 midnight. Mr. Duran added that this program ends on September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011.
- Ms. Vacas announced that as a previous professional dancer, she and her group will perform at the park on September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011, at 7:30 pm.
- Members of the Board mentioned concern about the program coming to an end because it will once again attract a negative element (eg. transients, gang members) into the park again. It was stated that programs are being created to address this homeless issue.
- Maria Alcazar, lives in front of Sun Valley Park, has a big problem with her septic tank because she lives on one of the streets of Sun Valley that does not have a sewer system. She is not able to install a new septic tank because she’s been told by City officials that the soil is contaminated. The issue is that the whole street needs a sewer system. Ms. Alcazar asked for SVANC’s support to get all the neighbors involved to agree on installing a sewer system. The Board stated that unfortunately they’re unable to help since its private property; therefore, the best case is to get at least a minimum of two neighbors to support this change, sign a petition, and present their case to City officials.

**ITEM 6B: Board member comments** on matters within the Board’s subject-matter jurisdiction. Board members are limited to **three (3) minutes** per speaker; and additional discussion time if request is made to place an item on an agenda of a future meeting.

- None

**OLD Business:**

**ITEM 7:** Review, correct and approve minutes from our July 2011 Board meeting. (GARCIA-VALLES)

- No action taken because July’s minutes were not ready for a vote

**NEW Business:**

**ITEM 8:** Committee Reports - Outreach- Planning- Community Affairs- By-Laws –Treasurer

- Outreach Committee: Julie said that the location for the Citizenship workshop will be at Poly HS, boy’s gym. A volunteer workshop will be held on September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2011, Sun Valley Rec Ctr., 6pm – 8pm. The Citizenship workshop will be held on Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2011, from 8 am – 7 pm. Flyers will be distributed/passed out to the community, door-to-door, to NCs, to community groups, TV ads, and in La Opinion
- Planning Committee: Monica said that she attended a hearing regarding the 7-11 on Saticoy and Vineland. It seems that the alcohol permit will be approved, but the community has until August 19<sup>th</sup> to present in writing the reasons why this permit should not be approved.  
Mike said that a letter needs to be written to Vulcan before August 18<sup>th</sup> regarding the Vulcan project, and he will hold a special meeting of the Planning committee to help write the letter.
- Community Affairs Committee: none
- By-Laws Committee: none
- Treasurer’s report- Rob said that DONE allocated \$40,500 for FY’11-’12 to SVANC’s budget.
- Rob read the following:

July 2011 Purchase Card Transactions

Date	Vendor	Description	Amount	Purchaser
07/07/2011	Barnes Distribution	Gardening tools for SV Graffiti Busters	\$675.16	M. O’Gara
07/13/2011	Ralphs	Refreshments for Board Meeting	\$18.80	R. Lim
07/14/2011	Papa John’s	Pizza for July Board Meeting	\$52.85	R. Lim

07/15/2011	Time Warner	Phone and Internet (office)	\$131.22	R. Lim
		Total Spent:	<b>\$878.03</b>	

- Mike O' said that paper was purchased from Spice's paper on May 24, 2011, but the company did not charge SVANC's credit card until August 2011. Mike and Rob will talk to DONE to try to have the amount for the paper charged to last year's budget.
- A motion was made and seconded to approve the treasurer's report
- The motion carried

**ITEM 9:** Mayor's Budget Representative updates (LIM)

- None

**ITEM 10:** Motion/Discussion/Vote- To write letters of support for a statewide Styrofoam ban on use in food containers and a citywide ban on plastic bags. (DUENAS)

- Mr. Good requested support from SVANC addressing a letter to Councilmember Cárdenas requesting that the City of L.A. support the statewide Styrofoam ban, also addressing a letter to Assembly member Fuentes.
- Mr. Good also requested support from SVANC addressing a letter to Councilmember Krekorian and Councilmember Cárdenas requesting that the City of L.A. support the statewide ban plastic bags.
- A motion was made and seconded it.
- The motion carried.

**ITEM 11:** SVANC is recruiting volunteers for the Homeless Registry project. (VACAS)

- Monica said that she and Mike have attended meetings with San Fernando Valley Homeless Coalition and they've made SVANC part of their San Fernando Valley Registry week to be held on August 29 – September 2, 2011. The campaign is to provide permanent housing to long-term homeless individuals by July 2013. The goal is to provide housing for 100,000 homeless by 2013.
- This count will take place from 4 am – 6 am during the three days, going 1-to-1 waking the homeless people, registering them and asking them if they are willing to accept housing. Ms. Vacas passed out a sign-up sheet and a flyer on the table regarding this registry project.

**ITEM 12:** PUBLIC COMMENT

- A community member extended an invitation to a Street Care Day on September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2011, on Elmer Street, in coordination with Tree People. Training on how to take care of the trees and soil will also be given to attendees.
- Edward Hernandez, Elmer Avenue resident, introduced the previous presenter in Public Comment, invited the stakeholders to join them for the Street Care Day on September 10<sup>th</sup>.

**ITEM 13:** Adjournment – a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:50.  
The motion carried.