

**Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council
General Meeting Minutes
for
Tuesday, January 10, 2011
6:30pm – 8:30 pm**

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

Board Member	Title	Status
Angelica Dueñas	President	Present
Julie Monroy	1 st Vice President	Absence Excused
Mike O'Gara	2 nd Vice President	Present
Robert Lim	Treasurer	Absence Excused
Karina Garcia Valles	Secretary	Absence Excused
Gary Aggas	Board Member	Present
Linda Housden	Board Member	Absence Excused
Imelda Padilla	Board Member	Present
Susan A. Bartlett	Board Member	Present
Monica Vacas	Board Member	Absent
Art Kalantarian	Board Member	Absent
Gerry Prieto	Board Member	Absent
Guy Dionne	Board Member	Present
Josephine Navares	Board Member	Absent
Nicholas Dalton Pawle	Board Member	Present
Carmen Perez	Board Member	Present
Luis Medina	Board Member	Present
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 6:35 pm.
- Angelica took roll
- The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and the Code of Civility was read

ITEM 2: Opening Remarks (President) –

- Ms. Dueñas stated that she will remain in office until the end of her term
- Ms. Dueñas asked her fellow board members who have not been as active participants in events throughout the district to please make an effort to try to get involved a little bit more for the remaining of their terms.
- Ms. Dueñas stated that Earth Day is coming up in April for those who want to get involved.

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>

- Ms. Dueñas reminded all fellow board members who have not taken the training that the deadline to take it is coming up in March 2012. Ms. Dueñas encouraged everyone to take this training.

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 announced that the Foothill Area Planning meeting for Operational Goals took place at the beginning of January 2012, at which time goals and objective of the area were discussed and set.
- Officer Vasquez stated that Foothill's goal for crime reduction in the area for 2011 was aimed at 5%, however the crime rate reached a 14.7% reduction.
- Officer Vasquez stated that the campaign 'Lock it, Hide it, Keep it' helped with the crime reduction statistics.
- Officer Vasquez shared the following crime stats: 1 business robbery; no car break-ins; 2 stolen cars; 3 burglaries.
- Officer Vasquez stated that new laws for 2012 or amendments thereto, include:
 - Anyone soliciting a prostitute under 18 will face a \$25,000 fine;
 - A crime of grand theft now includes any crime for which value is up to \$950 is now considered a felony; if the crime includes the theft of copper then a fine of up to \$1,000 applies and can be considered a misdemeanor with a hefty fine;
 - Businesses cannot sell to anyone under 18 who do not have a prescription for Dextromethorphan (DXM or DM) which is an antitussive (cough suppressant) drug.

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

- Mary Benson, CD2, announced that the Mayor will have a 'Day-of-Service' on March 31st, 2012. A hike and a picnic is a great project for the Mayor's 'Day-of-Service-2012'. Mary stated that an application may be submitted to the Mayor's office by January 27th, 2012 in order to be considered for funds for this day's event whether it be an outreach-event or a special meeting.
- Mary stated that an art sale/show will be held at the end of January at the McGroarty Arts Center.
- Mary also stated that two weeks ago the Councilmember was present at a dedication of almost 280 acres of new open space in big Tujunga Canyon, next to the Angeles Golf course.
- Mary announced that the Councilmember has business hours open to the public with appointment and he welcomes invitations to meetings and/or neighborhood council meetings.
- Olga, CD6, stated that they have been working with LADWP to bring more lighting to Sun Valley. Olga introduced CD6 Planning Deputy, Eddie Martinez.

ITEM 5: Public Comment on matters within the Board's subject-matter jurisdiction. Members of the public are limited to **three (3) minutes** per speaker.

- Greg Bartz, LADWP's Community Liaison for the East Valley and part of the north central part of L.A., stated that a \$0.35 water rate increase is being proposed to address water quality needs and issues per Federal mandates. These projects include covering water reservoirs such as the Silver lake reservoir and the L.A. reservoir in Sylmar, amongst others.
- Mr. Bartz stated that in reference to the recycled water program, L.A. is now getting only 1% of its drinking water from recycled water. But this percentage needs to increase, and that is the main objective of this program.
- Mr. Bartz said that the Sun Valley community/San Fernando Valley basin, the aquifer, is where the largest amount of underground water is stored. However there is a contamination issue with over 100 wells, only 50 of the wells can be used. Mr. Bartz added that LADWP will be drilling 26 monitoring wells over the next few years. These monitoring wells are being drilled in order to determine the movement of water, the level of contamination, etc.

ITEM 6: 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.

- Stella said that she has noticed that not all of SVANC's board members participate or get involved in community issues/events as they should. She mentioned that Mr. O'Gara is one of the few board members who takes on a lot of responsibility to work on issues to better the Sun Valley community. Stella asked all board members to participate more equally in all of Sun Valley's issues in order to better the quality of life in the community.
- Mike O'Gara talked about the homeless issue and stated that food was delivered to John Horn, Valley Shelter on Lankershim.
- Susan said that CD6 presented a motion to the City Council and was approved unanimously to provide \$18,000 to Graffiti Busters in Sun Valley.
- Imelda stated that she is willing to work with SVANC's outreach committee to prepare a proposal for the

Mayor's day of service.

- Stella volunteered to be the Chairperson for SVANC's outreach committee.

OLD Business:

ITEM 7: Review, correct and approve minutes from our October 2011 and December 2011 Board meetings. (GARCIA-VALLES)

- Mike made a motion to approve October 2011 minutes as written and it was seconded by Nick
- The motion carried
- Mike stated that for December 2011 minutes, under Item 10 (*the rest was not audible on the recorder*)

NEW Business:

ITEM 8: Committee Reports:

Outreach- none

Planning- none

Community Affairs - none

By-Laws -none

Treasurer- see below

December 2011 Purchase Card Transactions

Date	Vendor	Description	Amount	Purchaser
12/15/2011	Papa John's	Pizza for Nov General Board Meeting	\$52.85	M. O'Gara
12/19/2011	Office Depot	Office Supplies	\$99.60	M. O'Gara
12/29/2011	Time Warner	Phone & Internet (office)	\$130.59	R. Lim
		Total Spent:	\$283.04	

- A brief discussion took place about FY 2011-2012 Budget, which was also distributed in hard copy.
- A motion was made by Angelica and was seconded by Gary to approve December's purchase card transactions.
- The motion carried.

ITEM 9: Motion/Discussion/Vote to authorize Mike O'Gara, Gary Aggas, and Rob Lim to draft a letter to the re-districting Commission regarding what boundary lines SVANC would like to see in a Council District in the East Valley. Input from all board members and Stakeholders is welcome. (O'Gara)

- Mike discussed about the upcoming redistricting meeting and the importance of attending and/or providing your comments regarding the Sun Valley boundaries to the Redistricting commission, prior to the Plans being presented to City Council.
- Nick made the motion and Gary seconded
- The motion carried

ITEM 10: Motion/Discussion/Vote to allow the Planning committee to write a response to the application for a recycling facility at 8905/8907 Laurel Canyon (O'Gara)

- Mike said that Gary and he attended the Planning Department's commission meeting at which time Gary read the response from SVANC, and Mike read his response as an individual; both of these letters requested that the application for this facility not be granted. Mike and Gary read each letter during the meeting. Part of the conditions requested in the letter include: a review period in one year, the facility's hours of operation be Mon-Fri from 9am-5pm, and Sat. from 9am-4pm, closed on Sundays, landscaping, among others. *Note: Both of these letters from the members of SVANC are on file in the office. Additionally, the applicant's response letters is also on file in SVANC's office.*
- Mike mentioned that the people operating the facility are not the owners of the property.
- Mike stated that a meeting will be held on January 17, 2012, with the Planning

representative. Mike added that the owner of the project must agree to make the capital improvements or else this project should not be approved.

- Ms. Jennifer Peraza, daughter of Mrs. Martinez, read a letter from Mrs. Maria Teresa Martinez, owners and operators of the facility, to SVANC regarding the recycling facility. The letter was also read to the City's planning commission in a past meeting. Ms. Peraza's letter asked for support for the issuance of the CUP for the T&T recycling facility. Ms. Peraza stated that this is a family-run operation, that it provides valuable services, and that it is a great source of employment for the local community.
- A discussion took place about both sides of this issue by community members and SVANC's board. Some of the stakeholder's who gave their comments were Ms. Georgette Sotherman, property owner of where the facility is located, stated that since she took ownership of this property in June 2009, which was in foreclosure, she has made a lot of improvements to it and is willing to continue working with the community and with the City to abide by their requests. Ms. Sotherman asked for SVANC's support for the CUP for this facility. Also, Mrs. Martinez stated that the request for a CUP is in an effort to save their business.
- Mike made the motion to allow SVANC's Planning Committee to write a letter to the hearing officer and Nick seconded it.
- The motion carried

ITEM 11: Review and have any new attendees fill out the City Clerk Survey regarding the Neighborhood Council election process. (O'Gara)

- Angelica asked all attendees who have not filled out the City Clerk's survey to please complete it as soon as possible

ITEM 12: PUBLIC COMMENT

- Sergio Ibarra, Arleta NC, announced an event on Saturday, January 14, 2012, 9:00 at Bradford Park to celebrate the planting of 100 trees along Arleta Avenue.

ITEM 13: Adjournment – a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at about -8:30 pm. The motion carried.