

**Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council
General Meeting Minutes for
Tuesday, September 11, 2012
6:30pm – 8:30 pm**

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

Board Member	Title	Status
Gary Aggas	President	Present
Imelda Padilla	1 st Vice President	Present
Angelica Dueñas	2 nd Vice President	Absence Excused
Julie Monroy	Treasurer	Present
Mike O’Gara	Secretary	Present
Linda Housden	Board Member	Present
Susan A. Bartlett	Board Member	Present
Monica Vacas	Board Member	Present
Art Kalantarian	Board Member	Present
Gerry Prieto	Board Member	Absent
Carmen Perez	Board Member	Present
Luis Medina	Board Member	Present
Mark Mardirossian	Board Member	Present
Barbara O’Gara	Board Member	Present
Gene Culley	Board Member	Present
Sergio Carvajal	Board Member	Present
Ron Kramer	Board Member	Absent
Samuel ‘Sammy’ Palomino	Board Member	Present
Robert Lim	Board Member	Present

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

- Gary called the meeting to order at about 06:30 pm
- Gary lead the Board and all in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance and SVANC’s Code of Civility
- Gary took roll

ITEM 2: Opening Remarks (President)

- SVANC’s President Aggas asked for a moment of silence in memory of the 9/11 tragedy.
- Mr. Aggas asked Sergio Carvajal to recite SVANC’s pledge since he was not present for last month’s swearing-in.
- Mr. Aggas thanked all board members who attended SVANC’s executive meeting, which is held on the week before the regular meeting.

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 gave the following crime stats for Sun Valley: 1 shooting at Sun Valley Park during the opening of Summer Night Lights---hence, the LAPD assigned one patrol unit to

be present every night; 1 suicide at Sun Valley Park business robbery---there was no evidence of criminal activity; 1 double homicide; 1 robbery; due to the prostitution activity between San Fernando to the I-5, the LAPD has requested 'no stop' signs at certain times of the night in order to do some police enforcement.

- Mike asked for a status on the non-closure of the Marihuana clinics. Officer Vasquez answered that all the dispensaries will still be in business under the City ordinance's 'gentle ban' which ordered all clinics to close as of September 6, 2012, but this ordinance will not go into effect to date. All inquiries regarding this topic must be directed to the City Clerk's website at www.cityclerk.lacity.org and click on the marihuana dispensaries collectives link; once the link has been clicked the user will receive a message from the City Attorney's office giving more information regarding the reason why the ordinance will not be enforced as of yet.

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

- Sulma Hernandez, CD6 representative, announced that on September 22, 2012, a 'recycle your motor oil—oil filter' event will be held at Anheuser Busch will . This event takes place monthly at a different location.
- Sulma Hernandez, CD6 representative, announced that on Saturday, September 29th, 2012, a meeting will be held regarding the Strathern Wetlands Park project from 10am-1pm, at Richard E. Byrd Middle School Auditorium, 8501 Arleta Avenue, Sun Valley, CA. For more info please contact Mr. Mark Lombos (626) 458-7143.

ITEM 4a: Presentation by **Caltrans on the I-5 Corridor Improvements in the Sun Valley community.**

- Claudia Mejia gave the following information on the 170-Buena Vista Project:
 - This project will build a high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane in each direction along the I-5 between the 170 fwy and north of Buena Vista Street
 - It will replace sections of the concrete pavement, construct sound walls, and realign the Hollywood Way on-and-off ramps.
 - Work will be performed in both directions of the I-5 between the 170 and north of Buena Vista Street in Burbank
 - This project will alleviate congestion, encourage carpooling, improve air quality, reduce noise, provide a smoother ride for motorists, and reduce traffic on City streets.
 - The estimated cost is \$69.2 million, of which \$39.3 is provided by the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.
 - The work is expected to be completed in late 2013
 - Caltrans is also constructing a carpool lane on the I-5 between the 118 and the 170, and a new carpool lane connector between the I-5 and the 170.
 - For more information please contact (855) 454-6335, or visit www.I-5info.com, or via email visit the website and click on 'contact'.

ITEM 5: Public Comment on matters within the Board's subject-matter jurisdiction.

- Gloria Arrieta, Sun Valley resident, presented a complaint regarding the number of homeless people loitering at the park
- Blanca Diaz and Miriam Karasikis, Sun Valley residents, asked for SVANC's assistance to help them advocate to LAUSD to keep the child-care and my-mom-and-I programs open.

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.

- Mike O. announced a meeting on Thursday, September 14, 2012 by the LADWP's rate payer advocate regarding the proposed rate increases.

- Imelda P. said that she will attend the meeting regarding the new Park and will ask for the amenities she feels are needed (i.e. basketball courts, tennis courts, outdoor bathroom sinks, enclosed jungle gym, etc.)
- Rob stated that the Office of Community Beautification has issued an RFP for a 'Keep Los Angeles Beautiful' grant which will provide matching funds of up to \$5,000 for a competitive proposal that identifies and plans out a beautification-type project in the neighborhood. The matching funds as stated by the RFP for this grant can either be in monetary value or in volunteer work time. The Neighborhood Councils and non-profit organizations are encouraged to apply. The deadline to present a proposal is September 21, 2012. Imelda volunteered to work with Rob on writing the proposal.
- Monica mentioned that SVANC has a Sun Valley Beautiful committee, for which Imelda is the Chair and Mr. Cuevas, stakeholder, is a member.

OLD Business:

ITEM 7: Review, correct and approve minutes from our August 14, 2012 Board meeting.

- Mike made the motion to approve the minutes as amended and Rob seconded it.
- The motion carried

NEW Business:

ITEM 8: Committee Chair Volunteers- Outreach- Planning- Community Affairs- By-Laws-- Treasurer -Beautification

- Outreach: Mike stated that Mark Mardirossian and he went to a meeting regarding a Zoning issue about a 7-11 store that wants to open on Rincon and Sheldon.
- Mike stated that the Planning documents states that no CEQA review is necessary (which is the environmental information) but Mike states that this review is necessary because of the primary reason that the entrance to the store's parking lot is about 82' to a woman's house across the street, Mike added that even though the store is not requesting a permit to sell beer and wine but instead are requesting 24-hours a day operational hours, this will lead to a lot of traffic on Rincon which will create a lot of noise on a residential area creating noise. A petition opposing the store's request was signed by a large number of local residents.
- Planning: Mike stated that the issue with the Ratner Recycling Center is that they never abided by the condition to build a proper building structure as requested by the City and the community. However, now the owner of the Recycling Center wants to install a vinyl surround even though he has never abided by the CUP, and SVANC did not get a copy of the Recycling Center's request.
- Planning: Monica stated that the 7-11 store project representatives will make a presentation before SVANC's Planning Committee on October 23rd, 2012, 06:30 PM, at SVANC's office.
- Community Affairs: Imelda said that she will attend the Strathern Wetlands Park Project meeting on September 29th, 2012.
- By-laws- none
- Treasurer's report: Julie mentioned the following Treasurer's report:
 - In August's meeting, \$3,500 were voted and approved to purchase ads on bus benches; \$60 for a plaque to be placed on Fernangeles Park's bulletin board; this leaves SVANC's budget balance to be \$32,700.70.
 - Julie added that this balance does not include a deduction of \$63.26 for the monthly pizza expense, and it does not include \$10,200 for the annual office lease, these are encumbered funds for the 2012-'13 fiscal year.
- A motion was made to approve the above-mentioned Treasurer's report and it was seconded.
- The motion carried

ITEM 9: Motion/Discussion/Vote to approve monies not to exceed \$150.00 each for Sun Valley and Fernangeles Parks for Halloween outreach.

- Mike introduced David Valastro, Director at Sun Valley Park, who stated that the Halloween event will take place on Halloween night between 4 – 8 PM, with a carnival-type atmosphere---free candy, games, etc.
- Mike introduced Jason Shephard, Director at Fernangeles Park, who stated that the Halloween event will take place on Saturday, October 27, 2012, without giving out candy in an effort to be more health conscious, but instead it will provide Halloween prizes.
- A motion was made to approve this motion and it was seconded.
- The motion carried

ITEM 10: Discussion of Pothole and Sidewalk Patrols as projects for the Community Affairs Committee.

- Mike stated that this Item was included in SVANC's February agenda and t-shirts were purchased that stated "Sun Valley Pothole Patrol", but this project has not been carried out as of to date.
- Mike asked all stakeholders to start indentifying the potholes and the sidewalks that are in disrepair.

ITEM 11: Motion/Discussion/Vote new business cards for Board Members Not to exceed \$500.00 (Mardirossian)

- Mike asked Rob to look into the cost of printing SVANC's board member business cards like he did last year for a reasonable price, Rob agreed to look into possibly getting a lesser cost for the printing of the Board Members' business cards
- A motion was made to spend up to \$500 for business cards and was seconded it
- The motion carried

ITEM 12: Motion/Discussion/Vote to approve up to \$75.00 balloons and \$120.00 for helium tanks (2) for Outreach (M. O'Gara)

- Mike stated that since both Parks are having their Halloween events on separate dates, then a large helium tank would be necessary to lease at a cost of about \$110 and both groups can use it for the week.
- Mike made the motion and it was seconded
- The motion carried

ITEM 13: Appoint and Approve Senior Advocates

- Mike stated that no applications were filled-out nor presented to Mr. O'Gara.

ITEM 14: Discussion of new Skate Park name

- Mike said that a possible name that should be considered for the Skate Park is the name of Police Officer Tina Kerbrat who was killed on the line of duty at a North Hollywood Park.
- Mike asked for other naming options for this upcoming Skate Park.

ITEM 15: Discuss and update status of Board Representatives to Schools: Fernageles Elementary, Roscoe Elementary; Poly, Sun Valley High School and, Byrd Middle School.

- Mike stated that no one was appointed but, instead, volunteers were requested to attend. Mike stated that no volunteers attended any of these meetings.
- Mike asked Miriam to write a sample letter to LAUSD stating the reason why the stakeholders want the 'Mommy-and-I' and the 'Childcare' programs be re-instated in the school, and SVANC will gladly write a final letter to LAUSD based on the sample letter presented by the stakeholders.

ITEM 16: Discussion Los Angeles Congress of Neighborhoods September 22nd. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

- Gary encouraged everyone to attend the upcoming annual Congress of Neighborhoods.

ITEM 17: Discussion Volunteers for Voter Registration (Lim)

- Rob stated that the number of local voter turnout has been very low, therefore Rob launches a challenge to all NCs to register at least 10 people to vote for the upcoming November elections.

ITEM 18: Motion/Discussion/Vote to hire a website person to update and maintain SVANC website for a cost of up to \$75.00 per month.

- Gary made a motion to approve this item.
- After a vote the motion carried.

ITEM 19: Motion/Discussion/Vote The treasurer or the holder of the credit card shall be able to use the credit card to spend up to \$250 per month for the purpose of keeping Committees and the office running smoothly between meetings, to purchase miscellaneous items such as Photos, Printing, Clipboards, Tape. Helium, food for meetings, etc. This is not an exhaustive list.

- The motion was made to put this item for a vote
- The motion carried

ITEM 20: PUBLIC COMMENT

- Sammy Khalaf, Sun Valley resident, stated that he is available and willing to make himself available for the Senior Advocate position for SVANC. Based on his comment, an application for this position was given to Sam.

ITEM 21: Adjournment: The regular meeting was adjourned at approximately 08:45 pm and the President called the Special meeting to order.

SPECIAL MEETING:

Item 1: Mike O’Gara stated that M. Grayce Liu has attended all NC meetings and thus knows all the ‘ins-and-outs’ of the NC system. All NCs support the appointment by the Mayor to the General Manager position of DONE.

- The motion was made to put this item for a vote
- The motion carried

Item 2: Mike stated that the deadline to write a response to the EIR is October 1st, 2012.

- The motion was made to put this item for a vote
- The motion carried

ITEM 3: PUBLIC COMMENT

- None

ITEM 21: Adjournment: A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 08:55 pm.

- The motion carried