

**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, December 14, 2021**  
**6:30 pm – 8:30 pm**  
**(DRAFT)**

**Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council**

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
Chávez, Norma O. <b>Secretary</b>	At-Large Stakeholder Director	x		
Danielian, Serj	Residential Stakeholder Director		exc	
García, Rosalio	Residential Stakeholder Director	x		
García, Steven	Business Stakeholder Director		x	
Hill, Emilie A. <b>Treasurer</b>	Residential Stakeholder Director	x		
Lee, Lily	Business Stakeholder Director		exc	
Mares, Lionel joined at 8:20 pm	Residential Stakeholder Director	x		
Moore, Mariam	Residential Stakeholder Director	x		
O'Gara, Mike <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President</b>	At-Large Stakeholder Director		exc	
Portillo, Oscar Jr.	Residential Stakeholder Director	x		
Power, Richard <b>Vice President</b>	Business Stakeholder Director	x		
Ryan, Mark P.	Business Stakeholder Director	x		
Thum, Wendy	Residential Stakeholder Director	x		
<b>TOTAL: 13</b>	<b>9 Present, 4 Absent, 0 Ineligible</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>

**ITEM 1:** Rick Power, vice-president, called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken by Norma O. Chávez and quorum was established with nine members present. The Code of Civility was recited.

**ITEM 2:** Vice-President, Rick Power, welcomed attendees and stated that he is new at presiding meetings via Zoom so he asked for patience as the meeting moves forward.

**ITEM 3: EMERGENCY Personnel from Fire and Police departments****A. Senior Lead Officer Eric Perez**

- Officer Perez congratulated Mr. Power for presiding this meeting and showed his support and confidence that Mr. Power would do a good job.
- Officer Richard Wall has retired and will not be attending Neighborhood Council meetings. He might do one last Coffee with the community. In the meantime, Officer Perez will be providing the latest stats for both areas. In Officer Wall's area there has been a significant increase in aggravated assault. It has increased almost 100%. Aggravated assaults are those violent

incidents where the victims suffered a severe injury such as a broken bone, there was use of a bat, the use of a knife or some type of weapon, those types of crime are considered an ADW and those have increased to 102%. Robberies went up 16%. This is three crimes higher compared to last year. Property theft is pretty much the same compared to last year. Theft from motor vehicle went up 24%. This is 40 crimes higher compared to last year. The Sunland to Glenoaks and from Tuxford to Glenoaks Corridor has become the area of concern at various hours of the day.

- Officer Perez's area is doing better compared to Officer Wall's area. There has been an increase in robberies. There are 17 crimes higher compared to last year at this time. The other categories of crime occurring is spread out all over the map. It is no longer concentrated in one area. Property crime has gone down 5%. Please beware of your surroundings especially when you go out shopping. If you are being followed, call 911.

#### **B. Sergeant Ojeda**

- Gangs uptake in vandalism going on in Sun Valley and Pacoima. If you see graffiti, please take a photo if possible and report it to Officer Perez or the Council Office. This is valuable information that can be passed to the gang unit. Many hand guns have been recovered. The San Fernando Valley gang unit is very proactive on taking guns off the streets. There has been an increase on the recovery of ghost guns, which are guns manufactured with a 3D printer or other methods to create guns with only one part missing which they are then able to obtain from the black market. but do not have a serial number. City Council is working on a resolution on this. The Federal government is providing some funding throughout the year to help trying to shut down illegal marijuana dispensaries. Search warrants have been served throughout the division. A big dispensary was shut down here in Sun Valley.

#### **ITEM 4: Announcements from elected officials or their representatives**

##### **A. Tiffany Zeytounian (field deputy, CD2 Council member Paul Krekorian, [tiffany.zeytounian@lacity.org](mailto:tiffany.zeytounian@lacity.org) )**

- Toy and Food Drive on Thursday, December the 16<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm at First Christian Church in Studio City. This event benefits all the residents of CD2 and the San Fernando Valley. The donations being accepted are non-perishable foods, canned foods, unwrapped new toys, and unworn new kids shoes.
- City Council approved an ordinance authored by Councilmembers Krekorian and Korets which bans the sale, purchase, possession, or transport of any non-serialized or unfinished frames or receivers or non-serialized firearms. LAPD has the authority to make an immediate arrest of anyone possessing an unserialized weapon. The ordinance also gives law enforcement the tool to go after the manufacturers.

##### **B. Karla Maqueda (field deputy, CD6 Council President Nury Martinez, [karla.maqueda@lacity.org](mailto:karla.maqueda@lacity.org) )**

- Vaccinations available at the Mid Valley YMCA at 6901 Lennox Avenue from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. From Tuesday to Saturday.
- Vaccinations at Lake Balboa on Friday from 2:00 to 6:00 pm at the Orange Lane.
- The Gift of Reading event was hosted last weekend and about 100 kids from the elementary schools in our area were invited to this event, which was a drive through light show at the City Hall office in Van Nuys. They were gifted backpacks with books and a science kit. There are some still available for any children in need. Please contact Karla.

##### **C. Julissa Hernandez (district director from the office of Assemblywoman Luz Rivas, [julissa.hernandez@asm.gov](mailto:julissa.hernandez@asm.gov) )**

- Julissa will no longer be the field representative for Sun Valley. She will move to a different position within the office of Assemblywoman Luz Rivas to overlook the community. Julissa introduced Salvador Manriquez as the new field deputy to the area of Sun Valley

##### **D. Salvador Manriquez (field deputy from the office of Assemblywoman Luz Rivas, [salvador.manriquez@asm.ca.gov](mailto:salvador.manriquez@asm.ca.gov) )**

- Caltrans has provided some maintenance to the I-5 Northbound off the ramp on Sheldon.
- Their office has been in constant contact with Caltrans to mitigate the buildup of bulky items off the ramps
- The unhoused neighbors have received outreach from the office of LAHSA
- There will be a vaccine clinic in Pacoima at the City Hall for Saturday doing walk ins for the first, second, and booster shots
- Our office continues to provide assistance with EDD. Call (818) 504-3911

##### **E. Lilia Monterrosa (field deputy from the office of Congressman, Tony Cardenas)**

- The new representative to Sun Valley from the office of Congressman Tony Cardenas.
- Our office provides assistance to constituents when they need help with federal agencies such as US Citizenship, Immigration services, the IRS, Social Security, getting their Passports if they are planning to travel. Their office is able to step in and help speed up the process.

- MEND in Pacoima will have a Holiday Drive, which is an extension of their regular Food Pantry. They will be providing holiday food boxes and board games on Friday, Dec. 17 and Saturday, Dec. 18 from 9:00 to 11:00 am. The Congressman will be present during Friday's event.
- Last Saturday, an event was held at the Boys and Girls Club. This was a Stay Housed Clinic and provided help with signing up for the Rental Assistance Program.

**ITEM 5:** Comments from the Empower LA representative Vanessa Serrano.

Vanessa Serrano had no updates, but provided guidance regarding meeting procedures.

**ITEM 6:** GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS which are within the Board's subject-matter jurisdiction

Bart Trevño with the San Fernando Valley Partnership would like to bring a presentation to the Board to seek support in their efforts to reduce underage drinking through retail settings as well as prescription drugs misuse and abuse prevention.

Monica Vacas asked for help for the community below the 5 off of De Garmo into Sunland and San Fernando Road. The residents are asking to put a stop to the homeless crisis along San Fernando Road. Neighbors are tired of individuals making use of their hoses to bathe themselves, knocking on their doors to ask for cigarettes, among other issues. Marcos Sanchez stated before that the problem would be addressed by January 5, 2022 so members of that community are present to ask him not to forget them.

**ITEM 7:** Board Member Comment on matters within the Executive Board's subject-matter jurisdiction that DO NOT appear on the agenda

There were no comments

**ITEM 8:** The Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council Board seats were reviewed:

- (4) seats available for At-Large Stakeholder (1 term ends 2023, and 3 terms end in 2025)
- (3) seats available for Business Stakeholder (2 terms end in 2023 and 1 term ends in 2025)
- (1) seat available for Community Interest Stakeholder (term ends in 2025)

There are also one year appointed positions for:

- (2) seats available for Senior Representative Stakeholder (age 55+, 1 year appointment, term ends approximately Spring, 2022)
- (1) seat available for Youth Representative Stakeholder, (age 14-21, 1 year appointment, term ends approximately Spring, 2022)

**Qualifications for all seats per the SVANC BYLAWS and STANDING RULES, further information and Candidate Filing Form are available at:**

<https://www.svanc.com/board-candidate-appointments>

**ITEM 9:** Marcos Sanchez, CD6 District Director, provided an update on seven green space projects taking place in Sun Valley

**1. LADWP Tujunga Spreading Grounds** – Located on Sheldon Street from Roscoe Blvd to Cranford. The project has 2 miles of a passive walking path, parking, benches, refillable water bottle station, and outdoor classroom. The purpose of the project is to enhance the 150 acres Tujunga Spreading Grounds with increase capacity. The project is to be completed by spring of 2022.

**2. Sheldon Skate Park** – The City of Los Angeles has purchased the property next to the Sheldon Skate Park to build a roller rink and a recreation center. The goal is to have a permanently staffed park and to bring programs for the youth for three years by the Gr818ers. Programming begins in January 2022. Rec. and Parks is developing a timeline and concept for this park.

**3. Caesar Chavez Park** – Phase 1 included a baseball field, soccer fields, parking, restroom, and walking trails. This is the site of a former landfill so this limits construction of physical structures on the site. Phase 2 included all the street improvements and dedications which are projected to be complete by fall 2022. Phase 3 includes all park improvement and amenities (children's play areas, picnic areas, canopy over the picnic area, basket ball courts, landscaping, irrigation, ADA path, sewage line, temporary security fenced storm drain, modifications which include restrooms. More shading trees will be planted. This is projected to be complete by May 2023.

**4. LADWP Fernangeles Park** – This project is part of a larger 9 park DWP Stormwater Capture Parks Program. Among the improvements to the park will be two new baseball fields with backstops, dugouts, batting cages, bleachers and field lightning. There will be ADA accessibility, drinking fountains, landscaping and decomposed granite walkway, refurbished and new fencing. There will be replacement of irrigations system, green street landscape planting (oak trees will be preserved). This project is projected to be complete by summer 2024

**5. Rec. And Park – Allegheny Park** – This is located next to Alliance MIT. The park will have w splash pads, 2 playgrounds, a walking path, a fitness path, outdoor fitness equipment, public art dedicated to the strong women of Sun Valley who fought and advocated for families, BBQ area, and restrooms. This project is projected to be complete in fall 2022, but it may possibly be delayed.

**6. Department of Transportation Phase III San Fernando Road Bike Path** – Installation of the bike path from Branford Avenue through CDs to the City of Burbank. This completes a 9.8 mile bike path from Sylmar to Burbank. The project includes upgrades to intersections along San Fernando Rd., installation of street lighting, trees, landscaping, and a dedicated bridge over the Tujunga Wash. The construction of the bike path began on February 2020 and it is projected to be complete in July 2022.

**7. Rory M. Shaw Wetlands Project and Storm Drain** – This project includes a 21 acre detention pond, 15 acre open space, 10 acre wetlands, playground, walking paths, basket ball and tennis courts, picnic tables and restrooms. The project is composed of three phases: site investigation and demolition (complete), rough grading and excavation (2022-2026), and above ground improvements (2026-2028). The location is on Strathern between Tujunga and Fair. The dirt removed will be taken to Sunshine Canyon.

Public comment was made and safety and maintenance of the parks were major concerns of public members. Marcos Sanchez informed attendees that these issues are being addressed and a budget is being set for park staffing, programming, overnight closing of the parks.

Marcos Sanchez informed us that this would be his last meeting with SVANC. He is getting married and he is moving to the East Coast. SVANC Board members thanked him for his service and congratulated him on his coming wedding.

**ITEM 10:** Antoine Kunsh shared information on the Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains. The organization promotes land stewardship and resource conservation. They provide restoration services, biological inventory, environmental inventory, place-based journalism (distance learning), and community resilience and sustainable land-use. Mr. Kunsh presented the Home Ignition Zone Evaluation Program, which is a 45 minute to a one hour review of the vulnerability of the house and the landscape to wildfire and ember-ignition. During this assessment, the evaluator will review defensible space and home hardening principles, will make recommendations for the property, and discuss sustainable fire-wise landscape with California native plants. The participating homeowners receive a detailed evaluation report identifying five top priorities. This is all free for qualifying homeowners. Other free programs available for residents in the area are Chipping and Compost Assistance, Defensible Space Consultation, and Post-fire Native Vegetation Restoration. The RCD is asking SVANC to help with outreach in our community by sharing their information and fliers. Please visit their website for details at [www.defensiblespace.org](http://www.defensiblespace.org)

**ITEM 11:** Karla Ramos provided information on an opportunity to plant trees in a small portion of the Sun Valley Area. The LA Conservation Corps received a Transformative Climate Communities grant and they are trying to plant as many trees as they can. The free resources are available to residents/homeowners and local businesses in the qualifying area. They LACorps personnel plants the trees, obtains the permits and provides maintenance to the trees for the first three years. They hire youth from the Sun Fernando Valley which provides jobs opportunity, provides job skills as they continue to complete their high school while they do something positive for the community. They are hiring participants for ages 24 and up. <https://www.lacorps.org>

Lionel Mares joined the meeting at 8:20 pm

**ITEM 12: Motion / Discussion / Vote** to approve sending a letter to Councilmember Nury Martinez requesting a public site be named after Mike O’Gara to honor all the work he has dedicated to the betterment of the Sun Valley Community. **1<sup>st</sup>: Rosalío García, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Norma O. Chávez.** The motion passed with 9 votes in favor.

Yes - 09	No - 00	Recused- 00	Not Eligible - 00	Absent - 04
Chávez, R. Garcia, Hill, Mares, Moore, Portillo, Power, Ryan, Thum	NONE	NONE	NONE	Danielian, S. Garcia, Lee,

				O'Gara
--	--	--	--	--------

Board member Mark Ryan moved Items 12,14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19 as a single consent item since there are 5 ½ minutes left. Rosalío García recommended extending the meeting and Norma O. Chávez supported the proposal. No second motion was made Mr. Ryan's motion so the motion failed. Vanessa Serrano provided some feedback and confirmed that the motion failed.

**ITEM 13: Motion / Discussion / Vote** to elect a President and to appoint board members to the following vacant positions of the following standing committees, ad hoc committees, and as community liaisons for the remainder of the Fiscal Year 2021-2022: A. President B. Outreach Committee member C. Outreach Committee Chairperson D. Public Safety/Emergency Preparedness member E. By-Laws Ad Hoc Committee member F. Transformative Climate Communities Ad Hoc Committee member G. Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils representative (VANC) H. Bank cardholder I. Homelessness Ad Hoc Committee member. **1<sup>st</sup>: Norma O. Chávez; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Emilie A. Hill.** The motion was adopted with 9 votes in favor.

**B and C.** Lily Lee accepted to be a member of the Outreach Committee and its chairperson.

**F.** Wendy Thum informed the Council that the Transformative Climate Communities did not require to be a committee. She will continue to be SVANC representative for the meetings with regards to this grant with Pacoima Beautiful.

Rosalío García moved to extend the meeting ten minutes and Wendy Thum seconded the motion. There were no objections so the motion passed by consent.

**G.** Emilie A. Hill has accepted to represent us at the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (VANC)

**H.** Rosalío García has accepted to be the bank cardholder.

**I.** Lionel Mares has accepted to be a Homelessness Ad Hoc Committee member.

Rick Power made a motion to approve the above appointments and Emilie A. Hill seconded the motion. Vote was taken and the motion was approved with 9 votes in favor.

Yes - 09	No - 00	Recused- 00	Not Eligible - 00	Absent - 04
Chávez, R. Garcia, Hill, Mares, Moore, Portillo, Power, Ryan, Thum	NONE	NONE	NONE	Danielian, S. Garcia, Lee, O'Gara

**ITEM 14: Motion / Discussion / Vote** to approve the purchase of a padlock and ten sets of keys to the office front gate. **1<sup>st</sup>: Rosalío García; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Emilie Hill.** The motion was approved with 7 votes in favor.

Yes - 07	No - 00	Recused- 00	Not Eligible - 00	Absent - 06
Chávez, R. Garcia, Hill, Mares, Portillo, Power, Thum	NONE	NONE	NONE	Danielian, S. Garcia, Lee, Moore, O'Gara, Ryan

Board members Mark Ryan and Mariam Moore left the meeting at 8:30 pm. There are seven members left. According to the Bylaws, the quorum is established with 7 members one of which is an officer, so we continue to have quorum and the meeting proceeds.

**ITEM 15: Motion / Discussion / Vote** to reschedule the Food Drive event from Dec 11 to January 2022 **1<sup>st</sup>: Rosalío García; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Emilie A. Hill.** Discussion took place. The motion was tabled.

**ITEM 16: Motion / Discussion / Vote** to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on October 12, 2022. **1<sup>st</sup>: Rick Power; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Emilie A. Hill and Rosalío García.** Motion passed with 7 votes in favor.

Yes - 07	No - 00	Recused- 00	Not Eligible - 00	Absent - 06
Chávez, R. Garcia, Hill, Mares, Portillo, Power, Thum	NONE	NONE	NONE	Danielian, S. Garcia, Lee,

				Moore, O’Gara, Ryan
--	--	--	--	------------------------

**ITEM 17: Motion / Discussion / Vote** to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on November 9, 2021 **1<sup>st</sup>: Rick Power; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Rosalío García and Emilie A. Hill.** Motion passed with 7 votes in favor.

Yes - 07	No - 00	Recused- 00	Not Eligible - 00	Absent - 06
Chávez, R. Garcia, Hill, Mares, Portillo, Power, Thum	NONE	NONE	NONE	Danielian, S. Garcia, Lee, Moore, O’Gara, Ryan

**ITEM 18: Motion / Discussion / Vote** to approve the Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) for October 2021 **1<sup>st</sup>: Rick Power; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Norma O. Chávez.** The motion was approved with 7 votes in favor.

Yes – 07	No - 00	Recused- 00	Not Eligible - 00	Absent - 06
Chávez, R. Garcia, Hill, Mares, Portillo, Power, Thum	NONE	NONE	NONE	Danielian, S. Garcia, Lee, Moore, O’Gara, Ryan

**ITEM 19: Motion / Discussion / Vote** to approve the Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) for November 2021 **1<sup>st</sup>: Emilie A. Hill moved to table the MER.** There were no objections so the MER was tabled by consent.

**ITEM 20: Report / Discussion by Committee Chairs and Community Liaisons:**

Beautification – Wendy Thum – Cleanup and Tree Planting event happening this Saturday along San Fernando Rd. at 10:00 am  
Planning and Land Use (PLUM) – Norma O. Chávez shared information from PlanCheckNC that we are being asked to email and call Council President Nury Martinez to ask that the item addressing how SB9 and SB10 will be implemented at City level be added to the agenda for the meeting before City Council takes their winter break.

**ITEM 21:** Public Comment on matters within the Executive Board’s subject-matter jurisdiction that DO NOT appear on the agenda (comments only, no discussion, 2 minutes each)  
Monica Vacas made a comment.

**ITEM 22:** Board Members Announcements on matters within the Executive Board’s subject-matter jurisdiction that DO NOT appear on the agenda (comments only, no discussion, three minutes each) no comments

**ITEM 23: Adjournment:** **1<sup>st</sup>: Rosalío García, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Rick Power.** Meeting adjourned at 8:46 p.m.

**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**  
[SVANC.com](http://SVANC.com)