

**Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council
General Meeting
on
Tuesday, February, 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	Absence excused
Julie Monroy	Treasurer	Absent
Susan A. Bartlett	Board Member	Absence excused
Jon Eshbach	Board Member	Present
Stephen Franklin	Board Member	Absent
Jerry Piro	Board Member	Absence excused
Danielle Harmon	Board Member	Absent
Luis O. Medina	Board Member	Present
Manuel “Manny” de la Torre	Board Member	Present
Angel Silva	Board Member	Present
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	Absent
Nancy Vasquez	Board Member	Absent
Vinita McClennon	Board Member	Absent
Nicholas Dalton Powell	Board Member	Present
Frank Felix	Board Member	Absent

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

- President O’Gara called the meeting to order at about 6:35 p.m.
- Mr. Powell led the Pledge of Allegiance
- Mr. O’Gara took roll and having acquired a quorum the meeting was called to order.

2. Opening Remarks – Mr. Mike O’Gara, SVANC President

- Mike O. and Mary B. attended a town hall meeting about LADOT’s proposed MOU and heard a presentation from DONE on the neighborhood grant funding program. At that meeting, a deputy city attorney asked if the SVANC is interested in having a “Serving your Community while Protecting your ASSETS” seminar which essentially talks about protections from lawsuits. If the NC agrees to host this seminar, Mike O. suggested inviting Pacoima, Arleta, Shadow Hills, and Sunland Tujunga NCs.
- Mike O. spoke to Capitan Minsal about the license plate reader who said that he is talking to a rep at Gentech, based in Canada, about the warranty’s contract details.

Minutes corrected and approved by the Board at the March 10, 2009 Board meeting

- Mike and Mary attended a meeting in support of Trammel Crow's development of the old SunQuest area on Brandford. The development company added 319 trees in a five acre lot, which is in the center of the project, on behalf of SVANC. They will place the trees in pots and will install an irrigation system. An arborist was consulted to suggest the type of trees to plant and the water usage for the trees.
- Mike mentioned that in reference to this project the City wanted Trammel Crow to install a left-hand-turn only lane right before a bridge, but the SVANC and Chamber of Commerce representatives were against it not only because of the high cost but because it would take away landscaping. So the hearing rep conceded and will not require the left-hand-turn only lane.
- For this type of big development projects, the City requires the developer, Trammel Crow in this case, to pay an assessment fee to the ATSAC (Automated Traffic Surveillance and Control) System Fund. For this project, they had to pay approximately \$1.1million dollars, but about six months ago, the State decided to pay the City of L.A. for the ATSAC System. Therefore, the \$1.1 million dollars will be given to the Sun Valley community, who in turn will create a Community Benefits Funds for the management of these monies.
- The Sun Valley watershed plans to install a large water traction to recapture the water into the aquifer for the old Strathern Pit, on Strathern Street and Tujunga in Sun Valley. They will claim the property by eminent domain in March or April 2009, and plan to add a lot of property to the Sun Valley area park, a project that will take about 10 years.
- Mike distributed a notice about two candidate forums that will be held on Thursday night, February 12, at the Grossman Burn Center, and at CBS on Radford on Sunday, February 15, at 4:00 p.m.
- The reps from Mission Hills' Providence Holy Cross Hospital have asked the SVANC Board to take a position on the expansion of the hospital. When this project originally started, the Mission Hill's community was in favor of this expansion, and the Mission Hills Neighborhood Council had not been certified. However, since then, the Mission Hills NC has been certified and took the position in support of the project, while other NCs in the area were against the expansion and requested an EIR; Councilman Alarcón and the unions are against it also---this hospital is non-union. A copy of the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) was given to Mike O. for the SVANC Board.
- This project went before the City Planning Commission who took the position that an EIR was not required, but the NCs held their position requiring one. When this item went before the full City Council, it got eight votes in favor of overturning the Planning Commission's decision, resulting in the requirement of an EIR. Hence, the hospital appealed this decision, but the Court upheld the requirement for an EIR. The construction of this project has stopped and about 100 workers were laid off.
- This project will be heard at an upcoming PLUM Committee meeting.

3. **Emergency Personnel from Fire and Police Departments** - Esther Vasquez, Senior Lead Officer, LAPD's North Hollywood Division, stated that:

- arrests were made regarding the drive-by-shooting homicide that took place on Vineland in mid January.
- the LAPD is proactively recovering firearms from gang members.
- there has been an increase on home burglaries, and two juveniles have been arrested near North Hollywood. The officer stated the importance of

locking doors and windows, and to never open the door if the person knocking gives a reason for their visit that does not seem legitimate or if proper identification/credentials are not presented.

-if suspicious activity is sensed, call the LAPD's non-emergency number at (877) ASK-LAPD.

-the officers are working with the Dept. of Building and Safety on some abatements in the area and on foreclosed ran-down properties because people are breaking-and-entering this foreclosed homes.

- a Senior Lead Officer's summit will be held on April 15, 2009 at Stratton Elementary School, 7939 St. Claire.

- the Community Police Academy in Spanish starts on March 12, 2009 (the English version will be held in September). If anyone is interested in attending, give your name and phone number to Officer Vasquez or to the Sr. Lead Officer in your area. Flyers will be placed in the public libraries.

4. Presentation/Announcements from Elected Officials or their Representatives

- Eric Menjivar, CD 2, stated that the engineer for the Voit Art Project has received all the public utilities notices and is ready to pull the excavation permit.
- The artist is resolving some time-constraint details in the contract with the Dept. of Cultural Affairs.
- Eric said that the Bureau of Street Services just started working on the north part of the Glenoaks median (between Lanark and Roscoe) to replace the irrigation system that was stolen.
- Pam, Senator Padilla's office, announced the Health Fair to be held in Panorama City where free mammogram screening will be offered by appointment.
- Pam distributed a flyer from the Senator's office, who is Chair of the Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee, about some of the utilities services and programs offered by the State such as Life-Line, the Payment Assistance program, etc.

5. Comments from DONE Representative

- Barry Stone requested a current SVANC's Board roster in order to update DONE's website.
- On February 21, 2009 at 8:30 a.m. at Downtown City Hall a meeting regarding the budget will be held and requested the two SVANC's budget reps to attend.
- The Board members who took the Ethics training over two years ago must take it again. It is a requirement. BONC is considering penalizing the Board members who have not taken this training by taking away their voting power.
- Mike O. stated that he is planning on writing a letter to Bong Hwan Kim to suggest breaking the two-hour Ethics training into four ½ hour segments.

6. Update from Chip Clements regarding LA PAPER STOCK –

- The company is one of the big five recycling plants in the City of L.A. that sorts and recycles the materials placed in the blue containers from single family homes. Currently their territory covers about 145,000 homes.
- This proposed project is located on the corner of Tuxford and San Fernando Road and is proposing to build a new 27,000 square-foot building on the corner, fully enclosed, with a lot of landscaping to shield the building from view along San Fernando Road and Tuxford, and will eventually landscape the Caltrans property, by the 5 onramp—this requires permits from Caltrans. This new

building will have the capacity to accept and sort commercial recyclable materials, recover more recyclables and transfer the non-recyclable materials by trucks to the landfills.

- The company has been working on the permits for about five years and is close to getting the final approvals from Building and Safety. It is estimated that the construction will start in late spring or early summer, and the landscaping will start in the fall when the weather is cooler. The facility should be in operation by early next year.
- Re: Jon's questions: This building will replace the current building at the corner. This building will have negative air with a misting system and odor-destroying compounds. This building will accept more recyclable materials, so it is not expected to have a lot of environmental impacts.
- Re: Mary's question: The Sun Valley Paper Stock's facility at 11166 Pendleton is separate from this proposed project. That facility will continue with its current operation, which includes a buy-back component---where the public takes their recyclable materials for payment.
- Mike O. spoke to Mike Hernandez, the plan manager, about the possibility of LA Paper Stock adopting the traffic median on Tuxford, which is next to the facility. It is asphalted and raised, and Mike O. suggested that the City tear-up the asphalt and asked LA Paper Stock to put soil, bark, and potted plants, and to include it in their landscaping as part of the community benefit. Chip will send Mike Hernandez' and Mike Hall's, the general manager, email addresses to Mike O.
- Re: Mike O.'s question: as of date LA Paper Stock does not have a contractor for this project. Mike stated that the community wants jobs for the residents who live in this zip code 91352.

7. Public Comments

- Rick Stoff, Chrysalis a non-profit, helps provide jobs for people with homeless issues through the funding for clean-up projects. They've done projects for the Arleta NC, the NoHo Business Improvement District, and Pacoima Graffiti Busters (PGB) on Van Nuys Blvd. Rick asked the Board to consider funding beautification and 'outreach-with-a-broom' projects.
- Greg Bortz, neighborhood liaison for LADWP, announced that LADWP has added two more liaisons to service the community. Greg announced the existence of programs that are available for customers including the Customers Benefit Program, Assistance with Your Water & Power Bill program, and the Refrigerator Program. Information about these programs can be found on LADWP's website.
- Re: Mary's question: the community members can contact Greg with issues about facilities like the Valley Generating Station, large DWP managed infiltration basins along Sheldon Street, and the Transmission station along Tuxford and Lankershim, or about any other. Any stakeholder is welcome to contact the liaisons, the council districts or any of their own contacts at LADWP.
- Re: Lee's question: the Mayor's announcement about mandatory water rationing applies to the City's facilities and other major facilities within the City's boundaries. The original water rationing ordinance was revised and went into effect last May. Greg was not sure how this applied to the water conservation of the Million Trees project. However, stakeholders should report any water violations by calling 800-calldwp, or by visiting the LADWP's website.

Minutes corrected and approved by the Board at the March 10, 2009 Board meeting

- Marlene Radar, VP of Kagel Canyon's horses association, talked about CD7's proposed Truck Driving Academy project on the Lopez Landfill without the requirement of either an EIR or the support from the community. The association is asking the SVANC's support to demand an EIR. There are three schools and the Hope Gardens facility at the base of Lopez Canyon which will be greatly impacted.
- Nancy Woodruff, Chair of Land Use Committee of Foothill Trails NC, stated that their NC has been unsuccessful with the City in getting permitting and landfill closure information. Nancy asked the SVAN's support to take a position against the Truck Driving Academy on Lopez Canyon project. She distributed to the Board support sample letters which include two specific items to be included on the project proponent's MND (Mitigated Negative Declaration). The NC's concern is that this is an illegal use because this property is zoned as an open space, and if it is approved it will set a negative precedent for future uses on top of landfills. This property was given back to the community so that after the 30-year landfill settling period, it can be used for recreational purposes.
- Nina Royal, VP Sunland-Tujunga NC, announced a candidate forum to be held on Wednesday, February 18, at 7:00 pm in North Valley City Hall. There will also be a discussion about Measure B at this forum.
- Nina Royal, Board member of Saving LA Project (SLAP) --a group headed by Ron Kay, former editor of the Daily News, is asking the SVANC Board to take a position against Measure B. Though they are for solar energy, they feel that this measure is premature, since the accounting for expenditures is not clear, among other things. For more information visit www.noonmeasureb.com
-Mike O. informed Nina that the SVANC Board took a position on No-on-Solar in October 2008.
- Doug Corcoran, WM, gave an update about the proposed MRF project's hearing date which has been moved to late March (the date TBD) in Van Nuys City Hall. He will inform the Board of the exact date and time when known. Also, Doug encouraged the community members to continue sending their comments about the project to WM.
- Ms. Hetrick, Poly H.S. Drama Teacher, talked about Poly's theater program and their first production "The Iliad, the Odyssey and All of Greek Mythology in 99 Minutes or Less" which included 21 actors. Ms. Hetrick asked the SVANC for funding support for future production costs and offered to have their actors volunteer in outreach efforts for the SVANC along with information about the SVANC to be included in their production programs.
- Ms. Hetrick also announced their first musical "Grease" which opens on March 19, with seven performances and will include 32 actors. The cost for tickets will be \$5 or less. However, the students who attend all CST testing will get free tickets.

8. Board Member Comments and Committee Reports

- Board member Elidia thanked Western Bagel, Trader Joe's in Granada Hills, Ralph's and Food-4-Less for their support. Their donations of food products and gift cards helped provide items like juice and fruit bars for the students who were taking the CAHSEE exit exam.

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 of outreach shirts for Board members to wear at outreach events (Stephen Franklin). Possible action item for Motion/Discussion and Vote.

-Mike O. informed that Joe Moses', DM Graphics, price for embroider shirts is \$15 per shirt, but with a pocket on the shirt is \$18 per shirt. Jon made a motion to purchase 30 embroidered shirts and Mary seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Item 11: Vote to appoint Nick Perdaris (Alternate) to the Board (Nighborhood Pledge). Mike O. informed that Board that since Nick is absent, this item will carry to next month's agenda.

Item 12: Motion/Discussion/Vote to approve up to \$500 for outreach thru the Poly High School Drama class for space in their play/musical "Grease-The Musical".

-Mike O. will include the NC's and the City's logo on their production program. Jon made a motion to pay \$500 for outreach by sponsoring a full page ad in Poly's musical's program and was seconded by Lee. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 13: Discussion of the license plate reader camera warranty.

-Mike spoke to Capitan Minsal who got a three-year bid for two camera cars from Gentech for \$4,000, but the SVANC is only paying for one camera. The Capitan is still negotiating some contract details with Gentech.

Item 14: Possible discussion/motion/vote to approve letters to the City's Planning Dept with comments from the Planning Committee on proposed planning issues in Sun Valley. -nothing to report, therefore no action taken.

Item 15: Review, correct and approve the minutes from December 9th, 2008 and January 13, 2009 meetings.

-For the December 9th, 2008 meeting's minutes: Item 13 was corrected to read ..."care package from members of the NC Board..."

-Jon made a motion to approve the December 9th, 2008 meeting's minutes as corrected and was seconded by Mary. The motion carried unanimously.

-For the January 13, 2009 meeting: Item 3, third bullet point was corrected to reflect Foothill Division's and Mission Hills patrol coverage change.

- Angel made a motion to approve the January 13, 2009 meeting's minutes as corrected and was seconded by Frank. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 16: Public Comment: none

Item 17: ADJOURN – motion was made by Angel and seconded by Elidia to adjourn the meeting. The item was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:10 p.m.

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