

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

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

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

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

- Gary Aggas called the meeting to order at approximately 6:32 p.m.
- The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and SVANC’s code of civility was also recited
- Mr. Aggas took roll

ITEM 2: Opening Remarks (President) – Importance of Los Angeles Budget Survey

- Robert Lim encouraged anyone who has not filled out the survey to take some time and complete it in order to let the Mayor know of Sun Valley community’s priorities, which may not be the same as another community on another part of the City.

ITEM 2A: Ethics and Open Government Training coming to the SFV – to be announced.

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>

Minutes were approved as amended by the Board at the general meeting held on April 12, 2011

- Gary informed all board members who have not taken the Ethics and Open Government Training Session that they will have another opportunity to take it in person in an upcoming session that will be presented in the Valley at an upcoming date to be announced. The training lasts about 40 mins, with 8-minutes per test.

ITEM 3: Emergency Personnel from Fire and Police Departments

- Officer Vasquez stated that her counterpart Officer Rodriguez has injured her ankle and will be out for an indefinite time.
- Officer Vasquez said that Sun Valley's crime stats for January are great. The Officer emphasized the need to safeguard personal property which if left unattended or unlocked can lead to an increase in property crime. As of late, bicycles, property from garages, back yards, and purses from shopping carts are being stolen. Business burglaries have had a slight increase. Also, Officer Vasquez added that though calls to police due to house party noise is not a priority it is taken seriously and should still be reported as soon as the noise starts to get loud.

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

- Louie Sanchez, Office of the Assembly member Felipe Fuentes, stated that the Assembly member asked Mr. Sanchez to meet with stakeholders regarding any community issues or concerns in order to communicate these to the Assemblyman. Mr. Sanchez invited stakeholders to contact him to discuss community's issues of concern.
- Mike O. asked Mr. Sanchez for an update regarding the K-rails with graffiti that are being placed during the I-5 widening project, and Mr. Sanchez said that after contacting Metro they denied that this was happening; but Mr. Sanchez is meeting with Metro officials next week and will forward their response by email to Mike O.
- Mary Benson, CD2, said that due to conflicting scheduling issues, the Councilman has not been able to attend SVANC's meeting, but he will try to attend March's meeting.
- Mary stated that the illegal bike trails and berms crisscrossing the main road allegedly built by mountain bikers at the Verdugo Mountain Park are currently under investigation by the Office of Public Safety. Due to police presence at the park, the officers doing patrol looking for the trail vandals, made an arrest of a group of minors who were illegally drinking and taking drugs.
- Mary also said that the Council office funded the installation of a Q-Star camera at Borden at Tuxford Pl., in order to identify any individuals engaging in illegal dumping or loitering activities.
- Mary announced that April 30th will be the Mayor's River Day of Service, with a number of projects in CD2, Foothill Trails, and La Tuna Canyon areas. Anyone interesting in volunteering at these projects, please contact the Council office.

ITEM 5A: CD2- 2011 Candidate Augusto Bisani will introduce himself to the SVANC (4 Min. Presentation) CD6- 2011 Candidate Rich Goodman will introduce himself to the SVANC. (4 Min. Presentation)

- Mr. Augusto Bisani, CD2 Candidate, stated that as a 1st generation immigrant who has been in this country for 42 years, he understands and can relate to the community's needs. Mr. Bisani is running on the platform of taking budget responsibility, improving community safety, and working on infrastructure improvements. Mr. Bisani supports maintaining and attracting small businesses to the community and promises to give his full attention to each individual stakeholder's needs and is asking for the community's vote in the upcoming election.
- Mr. Rich Goodman, CD6 Candidate, stated that he has an Economics degree from UCLA and has been a businessman in Sun Valley for the last three years. Mr.

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Goodman is running on the platform of budget and pension reform, restore core services, and improve the local economy through business tax reforms. Mr. Goodman supports community service as a way to engage stakeholders in the solutions of community.

- Mr. James 'Jamie' Cordaro, CD6 Candidate, said that his yard sign flyers have been distributed and asked stakeholders to report any sign that was placed on the wrong areas by visiting the website written on the signs. Mr. Cordaro's campaign platform is pension reform, audit the rate increases, street services furlough days, and proper use of public funds. Mr. Cordero's website is www.LACD6.com.

ITEM 5B: Betsy Hoak and/or Guadalupe 'Lupe' Canales from the Sun Valley Los Angeles Public Library will be speaking about Proposition L which will affect Libraries. (10 Minute Presentation)

- Lupe Canales, Sr. Librarian at Sun Valley Public Library introduced Natasha who will talk about Measure L. Ms. Canales brought voter registration forms for the community who need to register to vote.
- Ms. Canales said that the library hours and staff schedule, and number of staff have undergone cuts due to the budget crisis L.A. is facing. Ms. Canales said that the library budget of \$150.7 million, is 2% of the total City budget.
- Ms. Canales stated that if approved, Measure L will provide additional funds to restore 6-day service to eventually 7-day service, purchase books and support library programs including after-school/summer youth, student homework help, and adult literacy and job search programs.
- Natasha Ang, former messenger clerk at library, now works for Library Skills, advocated for the passage of Measure L stating that if approved it will increase the L.A. Public Library's share of existing city funds, it will increase the Library's responsibility for its direct and indirect costs, including utilities, building maintenance, and other costs for operations. Ms. Ang stated that Measure L is not a new tax and its funds are subject to audits.
- Ms. Josephine Navarez, WET Academy at Sun Valley H.S., distributed a magazine with three papers, a brochure, SVHS's logo and a "How Did You Know" paper for local grocery stores. Ms. Navarez said that regarding the water-tolerant garden, it will be created at a not yet identified area on the school campus in an effort to join the school's goal to save \$25,000 in the next 6 months on the school's water bill. The Project Citizen is the new 10th grade group, which will be exploring topics such as water, energy, and the environment. SVANC's and SVANC's logos will be on the reusable bags, for which the school is asking for SVANC's funding support. The cost is \$848 for 600 or \$1.33 per reusable bag.
- Mike O. stated that SVANC's board has been considering paying for the bag and having a set-up in front of Ralph's so the students can help distribute these bags. Also, an open house is being planned in May at which time it will be asked of the students for their help in passing out the bags.
- Ms. 'CeeCee', Rec Coordinator at Fernangeles Rec Ctr., announced that the family egg hunt event, a carnival and the baseball and softball season opening ceremonies will be held on the weekend of April 15, 16, and 17th. The carnival will be a way to raise funds for the park. 'Cee-Cee' also asked SVANC for funding support for the youth basketball all-star uniforms (\$25/jersey) and for tournament fee (\$140/child), the team consists of about 10 players. Mike said that these events should be held on different weekends in order for the kids to stay busy.
- Mike O. commented that Fernangeles Rec. Ctr. has not sent a mailer to the community like other parks have in order to promote the parks' programs, services and encourage the stakeholder's participation in SVANC's meetings; the printing and mailing of the

Minutes were approved as amended by the Board at the general meeting held on April 12, 2011 mailer would be free since the City pays for it. Also, Mike O. added that there has not been a Park Advisory Board meeting scheduled and would like these meetings to restart. "Cee-Cee" answered that she would relate this information to Jason.

- Mike reiterated that Fernangeles needs to recognize SVANC's support on their event, programming, and service flyers.
- Virginia Beck, Sun Valley Beautiful (SVB) Secretary, said that the irrigation system has been installed at the median on Laurel Canyon and Webb but \$3,500 are needed for the meter.
- Ms. Beck said that the Village Christian School is sending their students on February 9th to the median to pull weeds for their Day of Service; about 20 high school students will help clean up the median. Also, that same morning, junior high students will help SVB maintain the bikeway alley on the west side of the I-5, from Peoria Street to Rialto in order to beautify and clean the area.

ITEM 6: Board member comments on matters within the Board's subject-matter jurisdiction.

- Julie asked fellow board members to update their contact information, if needed, on the list she distributed.
- Susan added that Village Christian School will also help Graffiti Busters on February 9th to clean from La Tuna Canyon to Lowe and then up to the golf course.
- Karina thanked Susan for helping clean the brick walls at Fernangeles which were full of graffiti.
- Susan asked for the Council Office and SVANC's continued involvement and support for the Wick's walkway project. Mike O. said that a letter-writing campaign will be initiated by the board and these letters will be sent to Mr. Cárdenas regarding this project.
- Cynthia Valdez, Sun Valley resident and head of the Lost Loved Ones Victim program, will also initiate a letter writing campaign to be sent to Mr. Cárdenas.

OLD Business:

ITEM 7: Review, correct and approve minutes from our January 2011 meeting. (Julie Monroy)

- Mike made a motion to approve January 2011's minutes as amended and Fern seconded.
- The motion carried

NEW Business:

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

- Treasurer: Rob stated the following January's expenses:

01/11/2011	Papa John's	Pizza for January Board Meeting	\$53.29
01/11/2011	Ralph's	Water for Board Meetings	\$15.57
01/29/2011	Time Warner	Internet (office)	\$58.91
01/29/2011	Fry's Electronics	Cassette tapes, USB ext., telephone cord, 6' table	\$80.04
01/29/2011	Staples	Paper (white, colored), scotch tape	\$162.13
01/31/2011	AT&T	Phone (office)	\$125.34
02/03/2011	ColorFX	Business Cards (9 sets)	\$147.68
02/04/2011	Addr.com	Web Hosting	\$107.46
		Total Spent:	\$750.42

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- Rob added that the business cards true amount was \$131.27 for a total January amount spent of \$626.55. The back of the budget sheet will reflect those amounts. Rob said that Q1 & Q2 are the actual amounts.
- Mike made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report as read and was seconded by Nick.
- The motion carried
- Outreach: Mike said that the Outreach committee is holding a meeting on February 16th at SVANC's office to talk about the town hall meeting, and the requests by Cee-Cee and other issues at Fernangeles Rec. Center & Park.
- Mike said that April is Earth Day celebration organized by the Chamber of Commerce and the proposed date for the town hall meeting will be May.
- Planning: Monica reported that a special meeting was held regarding the Arminta project which is moving forward, with conditions for their conditional use permit. She added that it will turn out to be a nice project for this area.
- Community Affairs: Danny was not present, no report given
- Bylaws: Mike will give some paperwork to Art before a detail update is given.

ITEM 9: Discuss/Motion/Vote on the Revised budget (LIM)

- Rob said that funds were under allocated for minute writing and interpretation services. Therefore, \$2,000 was transferred from General Outreach and Community Improvements, from each line item to this Service line item.
- Mike made a motion to approve the revised budget and was seconded by Julie
- Motion carried

ITEM 10: Updates from Regional Budget Representatives on Mayor's Budget Survey (LIM)

- Rob emphasized to the stakeholders present to take the survey in order for Sun Valley to get its fair share of City funds for its much needed community improvements
- Rob also invited fellow board members to join him when he visits the other NCs in the North Valley region to encourage the completion of the survey

ITEM 11: Discuss/Motion/Vote to approve or disapprove of Proposition "L" (O'GARA)

- Mike suggested that SVANC not take a position on this item and to table this item
- Art made the motion to table this item, thus not taking any action on it, and was seconded by Nick.
- The motion carried

ITEM 12: Byrd MS Leadership will be showing the SVANC their final layout and design for their "All Stars" T-shirts. (ROMANS) (3 Minutes Presentation.)

- Mark Greenbaum, Assistant Principal at Byrd Middle School, and Jennifer Rose, Leadership Teacher, presented the new updated placement of SVANC's logo on the shirts which will be on the sleeve and on the front.
- Mr. Greenbaum stated that the shirt order will be about 1,100 (this number includes faculty, staff, about 911 students and SVANC's board)
- Ms. Rose said that the base cost (based on the lowest bid received) for each shirt is \$4.05 times 1,100 for a total of \$4,889.36 without SVANC's logo; but with SVANC's logo for 1,100 shirts is \$5,915.52 (a difference of \$1,026.16).
- Mike said that SVANC had originally discussed funding \$750 but it will not sponsor the shirt as part of outreach if SVANC's logo is not on the shirt. Therefore, if SVANC decides to consider part of the cost, then the amount SVANC will propose to sponsor would be \$1,770. Mike asked Mr. Greenbaum, where were they planning on getting the rest of the \$3,145? Mike answered that the parent's fund donated \$200; Mr. Cárdenas' office will donate \$250, and will try to supplement the rest of the amount with some of the student body's fund. Ms. Rose said that their target time to get the shirts done is by late February early March.

ITEM 13: Discuss/Motion/Vote - Approval to lease our present office facility for \$900 per month for another year from Jan 2011 to Jan 2012 (O’GARA)

- Nick made a motion to approve the renewal of SVANC’s office lease another year for \$900 per month and was seconded by Art
- The motion carried

ITEM 14: Discuss/Motion/Vote Spend up to \$300 to purchase two additional Microphones and two 50 foot microphone cords for our meeting audio (O’GARA)

- Nick made a motion to approve this item and was seconded by Monica
- The motion carried

ITEM 15: Discuss/Motion/Vote spend up to \$400 to purchase ballpoint pens with our contact info on it as Outreach. (O’GARA)

- Mike said that the new pens will have SVANC’s full name, info@svanc.com, and phone number. He said that it will be 1,000 pens for about \$430. These pens will be handed out at the town hall meeting along with a shopping reusable bag when people fill out an info card.
- Nick made a motion to approve the purchase of these pens and was seconded by Susan
- The motion carried

ITEM 16: Discuss/Motion/Vote to spend up to \$1,000 to purchase a trash can for the bus stop in front of the Sun Valley Fire Station. (O’GARA)

- Mike said that the trash can has to be approved and installed by the City. Mike suggests purchasing a cement trash can and entering into an agreement with Graffiti Busters to empty it. The Fire Chief wrote a letter to SVANC supporting the installation of the trash can by the bus stop in front of the fire station. The trash can is \$629 plus tax, plus the cost of placing a SVANC’s plaque, and the City’s installation cost, it will be \$1,000.
- Rob asked why the Bureau of Street Services won’t provide the trash can. Mike answered that the Bureau will install it, but if they provide it then SVANC will have to pay for it.
- Julie said that the Fire Dept rep should have been present at the meeting to make this request.
- Monica asked if there are any other options besides cement
- Mike will email the board members the link of site for the trash can
- Mary Bensons added that the City’s regulations for choices of street furniture placed at bus stops, for example, is very limited. Mary asked the board members to consider using funds for this request and spend the funds in the community
- Julie asked to table this item in order to do more research on it
- Art asked what the balance is in SVANC’s budget line item for community projects. Rob answered that the balance in this line item is \$20,000.
- Rob said that he is in favor of SVANC spending money in the community, but he would feel more comfortable seeing the exact amount on an invoice. Mike answered that an invoice can only be issued after the trash can is purchased. Therefore, Mike is asking for \$629 plus tax and the allocation of \$371 for installation costs.
- Monica made a motion to spend up to \$1,000 to purchase and install the trash can in front of the fire station and Mike seconded
- The motion passed with 13 in favor and 2 nays

- *Julie made a motion and was seconded by Gary to extend the meeting until 9:00 pm.*

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ITEM 17: Discuss/Motion/Vote to spend up to \$400 to purchase a banner to be displayed at our Town Hall meeting in May. (O’GARA)

- Mike stated that the banner will have printed on it Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council and info@svanc.com. The banner can be used for all events.
- Art made the motion to approve up to \$400 for the purchase of a banner and was seconded by Nick.
- The motion carried.

ITEM 18: Discuss/Motion/Vote to send a letter to Zev Yaroslavsky and Tony Cardenas from SVANC requesting that the park being constructed on Strathern St and Tujunga Ave to be named Rory Shaw Memorial Park. (O’GARA)

- Mike stated that the County of L.A. is going to put a park with a small lake, plants and a stream. All the water that now runs down Tujunga will be diverted into the park. Mike said that the property has already been purchased using some money from the Federal Govt., and the Bureau of Army Engineers is designing it.
- Mike requested permission to send letters to the Supervisor and to the Council member requesting this park be named Rory Shaw because when the big sink hole opened up in the street, Rory Shaw was working in the sink hole and when it sunk Rory lost his life. Rory Shaw was the City employee who passed away while working to repair a sinkhole at Tujunga Avenue in 2005.
- Mike made the motion to send letters as stated in Item 18 and was seconded by Nick.
- The motion carried.

ITEM 19: Discuss/Motion/Vote that the planning Committee be given permission to send letters to the planning dept regarding the pawn shop at Roscoe and The Cell Tower at Stagg & Vineland (O’GARA, VACAS)

- Monica sent the letters to the Board and added that there are some conditions that are being requested to be included in their conditional use permit. Also, these letters included a response regarding the cell tower projects.
- Monica made the motion and was seconded by Nick.
- The motion carried.

ITEM 20: Discuss/Motion/Vote to Outreach to the VALLEY community thru Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils by participating in their March 8th Annual Mixer. Our Banner will be displayed. Not to exceed \$150 (O’GARA)

- Mike said that SVANC is a member of the Valley Alliance of NCs, all Board members will be invited and it’s an opportunity to meet and talk with elected officials.
- Nick made the motion and was seconded by Karina.
- The motion carried.

ITEM 21: Discuss the possibility of the SVANC Community Affairs Committee sponsoring a Community Garden in San Valley. (BEJARANO)

- Josephine Navarez said that the garden is a succulent garden at a not yet identified area of the school with the goal of saving \$25,000 for 6 months in the school’s water bill.

ITEM 22: PUBLIC COMMENT - None

ITEM 24: Adjournment – Rob made the motion and Mike seconded, the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:50