

**Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council
General Meeting Minutes
for
Tuesday, February 14, 2011
6:30pm – 8:30 pm**

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

Board Member	Title	Status
Angelica Dueñas	President	Absence Excused
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	Present
Imelda Padilla	Board Member	Present
Susan A. Bartlett	Board Member	Present
Monica Vacas	Board Member	Present
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

- Mike called the meeting to order at approximately 6:31 pm.
- The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and the Code of Civility was read
- Mike took roll

ITEM 2: Opening Remarks (President) –

- Mike stated that all board members have gotten emails from the Mayor’s office to complete the Budget survey for the Mayor’s Budget. Last year, SVANC had the highest percentage response from the rest of the City.

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>

- None

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 stated that crime overall is low in Sun Valley and added the following: a number of battery-type theft crimes occurred last month and after a police pursuit the car had a lot of stolen batteries but the suspect fled; a number of theft type crimes occurred including theft of personal property in a car or business; a couple of violent crimes involving a car and a scooter

- Officer Vasquez added that in the month of January an aggravated assault with a gun resulting in a homicide occurred on San Fernando Road by the night club; this crime is still under investigation. The Officer informed all community members that anyone with information on this crime to call it in and that person will remain anonymous.
- Officer Vasquez announced a 'Battle of the Badges' blood drive event, Monday February 20th, 2012, at the Foothill Station.
- Olga stated that more lighting and two cameras were requested for Bradford Street (between San Fernando Road and Glenoaks). The cameras will be installed on Thursday, February 16th, 2012.
- Olga stated that the issues regarding the bottling/can recycling places that are opening up illegally have been forwarded to CD6 Planning Deputy, Evelardo Martinez. She added that she checked the propane tank location and the City records show that it has the proper permits, except for the signage. Olga added that a case has been opened by the City for the illegal sign on the pole.

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

- Olga, CD6, announced that there will be a private screening of the movie 'A Better Life' on Friday, February 17, 6:00 pm, at Panorama HS.
- Mary Benson, CD2, announced that Councilmember Krekorian will attend SVANC's board meeting in March. It was encouraged to email any questions to the Council office before the March's meeting
- Mary announced that on February 25th, 9-3pm, Bradford Park will hold an oil recycling event for community members to drop off used oil and filters, free.
- Mary announced the Los Angeles Student Media Festival will be held on March 10, 2012, El Portal Theater in North Hollywood. Tickets are available through the Councilmember's office free of charge.

ITEM 5: Presentation by the Peoria Neighborhood Watch. They will be presenting in regards to the lack of street lights in the area North of Wicks Ave., South of Roscoe Blvd., West of Haddon St., and East of Laurel Canyon Blvd.

- Stella Arrington, spoke as a representative of Peoria Neighborhood Watch, stated that their group has requested street lights in this area because they are very dark and unsafe. A map of this area was distributed. Ms. Arrington requested funds from SVANC for the purchase, installation and maintenance of these lights.
- Ms. Arrington stated that some funds from the trust fund created by WM can perhaps be used for this purpose. She was directed to speak with Olga, CD6, regarding the permitted use for these funds.
- Olga, CD6, stated that representatives from LADWP have inspected this area and have met with this Neighborhood Watch. Olga said that the LADWP representatives stated that if the street has poles, then the lights can be installed for no charge; the problem is that some streets do not have poles. The Bureau of Street Services will attend the Neighborhood Watch meeting this month to explain the process. The only way to pay for poles on the streets that need them is through a real estate tax assessment of the homes on that street.
- Olga said that the permitted use for the trust funds are for educational and beautification projects.
- Ms. Ferli Perez, community member and member of Peoria Neighborhood Watch, stated that it is very dark in her area due to the lack of street lights.
- Mr. Ruben Ortega, community member and member of Peoria Neighborhood Watch, stated that it is very dark in her area due to the lack of street lights.
- Ms. Diane Gray, member of Homeowners Association and member of Peoria Neighborhood Watch, stated that street lights are needed in their area.
- Ms. Maria Contreras, member of Peoria Neighborhood Watch, stated that street lights are needed in their area for safety issues.
- Ms. Rosa Gutierrez, member of Peoria Neighborhood Watch, stated that street lights are needed in their area for safety issues.
- Mr. Hector Anaya, member of Peoria Neighborhood Watch, stated that street lights are needed in their area for safety issues.
- Mike suggested to the Neighborhood Watch to write a petition and present it as a group to the Councilmember's office.

Item 6A: Public Comment on matters within the Board's subject-matter jurisdiction. Members of the public are limited to **three (3) minutes** per speaker.

- Vince G., Sylmar resident, regarding the ban of plastic bags

ITEM 6B: 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.

- Ms. Imelda stated that she invited Mr. Greg Good, LANE, to present his campaign to reduce the truck traffic in the City of L.A., which through a bid process the city would select one private waste hauler to serve each of 11 geographic regions. If approved by the City Council, the change will occur in 2016.

OLD Business:

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

- Susan made the motion and Nick seconded
- The motion carried

NEW Business:

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

Planning report: Gary stated that this project is at 8905 North Laurel Canyon. Following are the concerns and requests:

- Move the front masonry fence back a minimum of 6 feet
- No sheet metal fence
- Professionally designed and installed landscaping beds in front of fence
- “Smart” irrigation system professionally designed and installed
- All business at this location properly permitted
- Proper signage
- Dumpster pickups of trash should be done on a more regular basis
- Vector control every two months
- The porta-potty should be moved out of pedestrian’s walkways or removed if not permitted and make provisions for employees to use proper facilities.
- Running water as provided by code
- “Hotline” Telephone signage
- Hours of operation, Mon-Fri 9AM-4PM, no Sunday operation
- One year review process of the CUP
- Graffiti removal within 23 hours.

Outreach report: Mike introduced Sergio, area resident, is a Master’s candidate in Urban Planning at CSUN, and is one of four interns from CSUN who will be working with the Planning Department to review the files of the projects in Sun Valley.

- Mike has a plan to work with Sun Valley High and Poly High students to identify potholes in Sun Valley during their Christmas break.

Treasurer’s report:
January 2012 Purchase Card Transactions

Date	Vendor	Description	Amount	Purchaser
01/03/2012	Walgreens	Photo for Planning	\$10.28	M. O’Gara
01/10/2012	Ralphs	Water for board meeting	\$13.59	M. O’Gara
01/10/2012	Papa John’s	Pizza for Dec. Board meeting	\$52.85	M. O’Gara
01/29/2012	Time Warner	Phone & Internet (office)	\$125.84	R. Lim
		Total Spent:	\$202.56	

- Imelda made the motion to accept the Treasurer’s report and Gary seconded
- The motion carried

ITEM 9: Motion/Discussion/Vote on a resolution that The Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council urges the Department of Water and Power and the Neighborhood Council DWP MOU Oversight Committee to extend the

current Memorandum of Understanding as soon as practicable. (O’GARA)

- Mike stated that this MOU will be expiring in April.
- Susan made the motion and Imelda seconded
- The motion carried

ITEM 10: Motion/Discussion/Vote on a resolution that The Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council hereby affirms its participation in the existing Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, and names TBA as its NC Representative to the LADWP. The NC Representative shall also represent this council on the MOU Oversight Committee unless this council's NC Representative names another person or alternate. (O’GARA)

- Mike requested a volunteer from the board to be the representative and attend the LADWP meetings.
- Imelda was named as the representative.
- Nic made the motion and Gary seconded
- The motion carried

ITEM 11: Motion/Discussion/Vote on a resolution that The Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council hereby affirms its participation in the DWP Committee, and names TBA as its NC Representative to the committee. (O’GARA)

- Imelda was nominated as the representative of this committee
- Susan made the motion and Carmen seconded
- The motion carried

ITEM 12: Motion/Discussion/Vote on a resolution that The Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council requests the Office of Public Accountability / Ratepayers Advocate to negotiate a Memorandum of Understanding with the Neighborhood Councils. (O’GARA)

- Mike made the motion and Susan seconded
- The motion carried

ITEM 13: Discussion of Request from Foothill Police division regarding lockers for Personnel. (O’GARA)

- Mike said that the NC’s funds are for purposes to involve people of the community in government. Mike suggested involving other community organizations and the rest of the NCs who receive services from the Foothill Police division to work together and contribute to this request.

ITEM 14: Motion/Discussion/Vote to Appoint a ELECTION COMMITTEE. Needs a chairperson. (O’GARA)

- Mike stated that an election committee needs to be created because the City Council will give DONE about \$650,000 to conduct elections; an election for SVANC will most likely take place in September. Some of SVANC’s funds will be rolled over for outreach
- Imelda made the motion and Susan seconded
- The motion carried

ITEM 15: Motion/Discussion/Vote to spend up to \$3,800 to rent advertising on FIVE BUS BENCHES for six months. (O’GARA)

- Mike stated that the new bus company Martin Bus Advertising sent the approximate cost to rent a bus bench, which would be \$100 per bench, per month, and \$35 for the advertising in the 91352 area. The meeting dates and the upcoming election info would be publicized.
- Guy made the motion but there was no second
- The motion did not carry

ITEM 16: Motion/Discussion/Vote to spend up to \$3,800 for a mass mailing to everyone in Sun Valley to advise our stakeholders that we are having an election in September (?)(O’GARA)

- Mike said that this mass mailing is to inform the stakeholders about the upcoming September election in order to encourage participation. The goal of the second mailing would be to get people out to vote.
- Imelda made the motion and Mike seconded
- The motion carried

ITEM 17: Discussion/ Motion/Vote Gary Aggas requests to resign from his position as APPOINTED Senior Advisor and requests to be appointed as a board member in the Resident Group (O’GARA)

- No action was taken because Mr. Aggas has to submit the required paperwork first. This item will be included in next month's agenda.

ITEM 18: REQUEST that all board members take the Mayors Budget Survey. Last year SVANC had one of the largest number of respondents percentage wise. It is particularly important that you fill out the remarks column with the way you wish to budget the money. (O'GARA)

-Mike encouraged everyone to complete the survey.

ITEM 19: The allocation of funds to design and plant fire safe landscaping at Fire Station 77, in partnership with the Theodore Payne Foundation, to begin the process of aesthetically improving Sun Valley while providing and educational environment, and raising the profile of both organizations. (\$3900) (PAWLE)

- Nick stated that the goal is to raise the Payne Foundation and SVANC's profile in the community of Sun Valley.

- Mike asked who would get these funds and for a breakdown of how these funds will be used.

- Imelda made the motion and Guy seconded

- The motion carried with one vote in opposition

ITEM 20: Brief discussion of three issues on Planning, Eldercare facility on Laurel Canyon Childcare at 11111 Strathern St and Athens Services on Pendleton Street. Request permission to allow the Planning Committee to write a letter to the planning dept outlining any concerns they have regarding these applications and to make a recommendation to accept or reject the proposal. (O'GARA)

-Mike said that this facility plans to build 36 condominiums at 9071 Laurel Canyon, on the Sheldon off ramp of the I-5. The other projects are at that the Childcare on 11111 Strathern St., a meeting will be scheduled with City personnel; and the Athens Services on Pendleton Street a meeting will be held with CD6 personnel, and a meeting will be held with City Planning Commission regarding the Athens project on March 1st.

ITEM 21: Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Council awards. The SVANC will be receiving two awards for their work. One for trying to move the homeless out of the Park and into transitional housing where they can get the necessary paperwork done and move into permanent housing. The second is for SVANC's work in trying to get more residents to apply to become United States citizens. ALL members of the SVANC will be called forward to accept the awards. Only one person is to speak. The awards will be at the mixer on March 8, 2012 at CBS studios on Radford Street. (O'GARA)

- Mike stated that SVANC will be receiving two awards for their work, one is for working with the homeless to try for their efforts in trying to get them to transitional housing; the second one is for the event held to facilitate residents to complete the documents for their citizenship. One person will speak on behalf of the board.

ITEM 22: Peoria Neighborhood Council is requesting funds for a project to provide street lights in the area North of Wicks Ave, South of Roscoe Blvd., West of Haddon St., and East of Laurel Canyon Blvd. (\$25,000) (ARRINGTON)

- Mike stated that he will meet with their Neighborhood Watch group to further discuss this request.

ITEM 23: PUBLIC COMMENT

- Sergio Carbajal suggested that for the landscaping in Item 19 native California plants should be used for lower maintenance and lesser cost

- Imelda requested that an Item be included in April's SVANC agenda regarding the UCLA students' results on the homelessness issue.

ITEM 24: Adjournment the meeting was adjourned at approximately 08:25 pm