

**Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council
General Meeting Minutes for
Tuesday, December 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
Angelica Dueñas	1 st Vice President	Present
Mike O’Gara	2 nd VP/Secretary	Present
Julie Monroy	Treasurer	Absence excused
Linda Housden	Board Member	Absence excused
Susan A. Bartlett	Board Member	Absence excused
Imelda Padilla	Board Member	Absence excused
Monica Vacas	Board Member	Absence excused
Art Kalantarian	Board Member	Absent
Gerry Prieto	Board Member	Present
Carmen Perez	Board Member	Absence excused
Luis Medina	Board Member	Absence excused
Mark Mardirossian	Board Member	Present
Barbara O’Gara	Board Member	Present
Gene Culley	Board Member	Absent
Sergio Carvajal	Board Member	Absent
Ron Kramer	Board Member	Absent
Samuel ‘Sammy’ Palomino	Board Member	Present
Robert Lim	Board Member	Absence excused
Sam Khalaf	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)

- Gary mentioned that last month the Veterans were honored at the Veteran’s day parade and other festivities, and Friday was Pearl Harbor day. Gary requested to keep all of our veterans and our first responders in our thoughts and prayers.

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 Kim Walliat is covering for Officer Vasquez who is on medical leave. Officer Walliat stated that the public can reach the Senior Lead Officer, Foothill Division, at 818-756-8866. Mr. O’Gara asked the Officer why the area at Sheldon and Rincon is

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considered a high crime area per a ZA's report? The Officer stated that it's because it is an ABC location.

- Officer Kim Walliat said that crime is down in Sun Valley, and gave the following crime statistics: homicide is up by two, but the suspect was caught; rape was down 40%-six this year compared to 10 last year; robbery was down to 41 compared to 55 last year; assaults (person-person and domestic violence) went down from 55 last year to 52 this year; burglaries (not loud enough on recorder); personal theft (not loud enough on recorder); the rest of the officer's conversation was not loud enough on recorder.

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

- Sulma Hernandez, CD6 representative, announced that January 2nd, 2013 is Councilmember Cárdenas' last day in City Council. Ms. Hernandez added that the Councilmember is doing everything he can to make sure that any funds allocated stay in place and the projects he supported continue; one such allocation is the \$30,000 for Sun Valley Graffiti Busters. Mr. O'Gara stated that he was going to speak with Jim regarding the \$510,000 funds allocations made by the Councilmember.
- Ms. Hernandez added that the City will be picking up X-Mas trees, as long as they are cut up and placed on the green bin.
- Mary Benson, CD7, stated that a homeless count activity is being planned in Sunland-Tujunga.
- Ms. Benson announced that the COUNTY of L.A. is planning to send out a proposed assessment charge for waste water treatment.

ITEM 4a: SoCalGas is about to begin work on its Advanced Meter Project in the City of Los Angeles and specifically in portions of Council District 7. Ray Verches will provide an overview of the project and also provide the locations where work will take place.

- Ms. Denise Campos, Mr. Juan Gonzales, and Ms. Marcela Low introduced an upgraded gas meter system—part of the advanced meters project.
- Ms. Campos said that on 2010 the California Public Utilities Commission, (the CPUC is the regulatory agency of all public utilities), directed SoCal Gas to move forward with a plan to install advanced meters. Ms. Campos stated that approximately 6 million of these will be installed on the meters in their service area. This project began in October 2012, and 10K have been installed thus far, with the goal to complete the upgrades by 2017.
- The meters are operated by 2-AA size batteries, which are expected to last up to 20 years because they are only on for micro-seconds per day, thus for 2 mins in one year. These 'smart' meters will be read via remote thus eliminating the need for a gas representative to personally read a meter at your home.
- Ms. Campos will email a map of CD6 area to SVANC's board for verification of the area which will be included in the installation of the 'smart' meters. Ms. Campos added that four thousand poles will be installed, as needed, throughout the area.
- Ms. Marcela Low, Public Affairs Manager who covers the South Bay area, stated that the person in charge of this area is Rochelle S. who is on vacation.
Transcriber's note: a lot of the presentation from the SoCal Gas was inaudible on the recorder.
- Ms. Low stated that currently there is a proposal to have automatic shut-off valves provided to some customers in the future.

ITEM 5: Public Comment

- Fernando Alvarez, Poly High Student, regarding Item 17 on the agenda.

ITEM 6: Board member comments

- None

OLD Business:

ITEM 7: Review, correct and approve minutes from our November 13, 2012 Board meeting.

- The minutes for November 13, 2012 were approved as amended
- The motion was put out for a vote
- The motion carried

NEW Business:

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

- Outreach Committee report – none
- Planning Committee report – Mike O’Gara stated that some of SVANC’s board members attended a meeting yesterday, December 10, 2012, regarding the 7-11 project where he read the letter at the City’s Zoning Administrator’s hearing; Mr.O’Gara will be emailing/mailing the draft letter to the rest of SVANC’s Board. For this project, two letters were presented on behalf of Sun Valley, in brief, one read: “We are opposed to a 24-hour operation for the following reasons...”; and the second letter, briefly read: “...In the unlikely event that the Zoning Administrator decides to grant the 7-11 operators a 24-hour operations permit, we ask for the mitigations included in the letter..”
- Community Affairs Committee Report: Mike stated that Mark, Gary and Mike spent a number of days creating the presentation, but gave credit to Rob Lim for his preparation, writing and lay-out of this grant’s application. Mike stated that Councilmembers Alarcón and Cárdenas wrote letters to the people in charge of the grant for ‘Keep L.A. Beautiful’, asking for the grant to allow the landscaping of the fire-station. Mike added that the recipients of the \$5,000 grant will be notified in February, 2013.
- By-Laws Committee Report – none
- Treasurer Committee Report: Mike announced the following expenses for November, which totaled \$579.64:
 - – Papa John’s: Pizza for meeting \$60.13
 - – Ralph’s: Water for meeting \$12.57
 - – Office Depot: Office Supplies \$93.25
 - – Color FX: Business Cards \$126.45
 - – Warner phone and internet (two months) \$287.24
 - A motion was made to accept the treasurer’s report, the motion was seconded.
 - The motion was put out for a vote
 - The motion carried
- Beautification Committee Report – Mike reiterated the information about the Community Affairs Committee Report regarding the landscape improvement for Fire station 77.

ITEM 9: Motion /Discussion/Vote to Approve \$150 to help sponsor the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (VANC) upcoming mixer for the 10th Anniversary and also to help fund the VANC planned ELECTION FORUM for candidates for Mayor-Controller-- City Attorney

- Mike O’Gara made the motion to approve a total of \$150 stating that VANC is planning a Mayoral candidacy election forum in January, and to attend the VANC’s 10th Anniversary event in March, it was seconded by Angelica.
- The motion was put out for a vote
- The motion carried

ITEM 10: Update on Sun Valley Homeless.

- Mike O. said that a meeting was held with stakeholders, Police Dept, and Hope of the Valley regarding the increase in the number of homeless people at the park again. The increase is due, in part, because Hope of the Valley is passing out food and providing a place to take showers. The representative from Hope of the Valley stated that he is working with John Horn, L.A. Family Housing, to assist in getting the homeless people into housing.
- Mike said that another meeting regarding this issue will be held within the next couple of months.

ITEM 11: Discussion and update of the Fire House 77 Beautification Project

- No further discussion

ITEM 12: Discussion and update regarding ID Cards for all SVANC Board Members and Business Cards.

- Mark said that the cards are ready and has started to distribute them to the board members.

ITEM 13: Discuss and update status of Board Representatives to Schools: Fernangeles Elementary, Roscoe Elementary; Poly, Sun Valley High School and, Byrd Middle School.

- No discussion

ITEM 14: Update on Waste franchise for apartments and Commercial Properties.

- Mike stated that a couple of years back, SVANC voted in favor of this project. Mike added that he attended a meeting at City Hall recently at which time it was discussed to divide the City into 11 waste sheds (areas), and each area will be serviced by one Waste hauling company only. This will help reduce pollution, wear-and-tear of the streets and it will allow for recycling activity. The community is asking for LNG and CNG trucks to be used in this waste franchise program.
- The concern by apartment owners, Mike added, is the cost of this change. However, it is projected that this program will be beneficial for all.

ITEM 15: Discussion on new board members

- Mike invited stakeholders to join SVANC's board.
- Mark suggested making phone calls to the current board a few days before each month's board meeting in order to encourage more attendance by the elected board members who don't attend regularly. Mark volunteered to make the calls.

ITEM 16: Discussion of Waste Management Trust Fund

- Mike said that in 2005 a Trust Fund was created with Waste Management for \$500,000; this was accomplished through a Community Advisory Committee (CAC) group and Waste Mgmt's representatives which met periodically for several years. These funds were supposed to be used in the local community.
- Mike said that Councilmember, recently, allocated \$30,000 to Graffiti Busters, \$30,000 to a North Hollywood Graffiti group that is supposedly in Sun Valley, \$100,000 to Pacoima Beautiful to do a traffic study, \$100,000 to the skate park for an environmental building, and, \$200,000 to Cesar Chavez park.
- Mike will be meeting with the Councilmember's remaining staff to ask for a more thorough review of the allocation of these funds.

ITEM 17: Motion /Discussion/Vote to Approve \$500. To John H Francis Polytechnic High School For their Health Fair on this Saturday, December 15, 2012. (Aggas)

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- Mike said that Olivia Vasquez, Poly HS, wrote a note stating that a clinic was going to be held at Poly HS and asked SVANC if they were interested in contributing \$500 for food and water. However, Mike was under the assumption that it was a health clinic, but it turned out to be a clinic/workshop for the Deferred Action aka Dream Act, which is to help the dream team of young people stay in school.
- Fernando Alvarez, representative of the San Fernando Valley Dream Team, said that even though the forms for Deferred Action under President Obama's Dream Act are free, a lot of organizations are charging the students up to \$500 to help fill them out. Mr. Alvarez' organization organized forums/clinics throughout the community to teach how to fill out the forms, free of charge. The clinics are organized by volunteers and its legal experts also volunteer their time. The amount requested of SVANC is to provide a meal for them at these clinics, and SVANC will be able to have a table/booth at this event. Fernando offered to help organize a similar clinic with SVANC.
- Mike said that SVANC's logo is not on the flyer. Mike made the motion to contribute \$300---which would be payable to a vendor with a credit card, it was seconded by Angelica.
- The motion was put out for a vote
- The motion carried

ITEM 18: Motion /Discussion/Vote to Approve \$10,800.00 for rental of our Office. (O'Gara)

- Mike said that SVANC's office lease is about to expire, however, due to the upcoming construction which will make the offices much smaller, SVANC is going to have to move to a new location.
- Mike made a motion to earmark \$10,800 for the lease of SVANC's office for the year 2013, and it was seconded.
- The motion was put out for a vote
- The motion carried

ITEM 19: Discussion of the items on the last Planning Committee Agenda:

- a) Mike stated, per the comment below stating "...possible action" refers to allowing the Planning Committee to take action on planning items, on an as-need basis.
 - Crown Disposal FEIR
 - Mike made the motion requesting the Board to delegate the authority to the Planning committee to write a letter regarding the Final EIR for Crown Disposal and present it at the appropriate City's hearing, which can be scheduled at any moment by the City and be held before SVANC's next board meeting.
 - The motion was put out for a vote
 - The motion carried
- b) The LADWP Tujunga Spreading Grounds (TSG) Environmental Impact Report (EIR).
 - Mike made the motion requesting the Board to delegate the authority to the Planning committee to write a letter to LADWP regarding Tujunga Spreading Grounds (TSG) EIR and present it at the appropriate City's hearing, which can be scheduled at any moment by the City and be held before SVANC's next board meeting. The motion was seconded.
 - The motion was put out for a vote
 - The motion carried
- c) 7-11 Project on Rincon & Sheldon.
 - Mike stated that this has been completed as of yesterday, Monday, December 10th, 2012.
- d) The Ratner Recycling Center at 10970 Ratner St., Sun Valley CA 91352
 - Mike stated that they will be meeting with the Recycling Center's representative. To date, the owner has not fulfilled the conditions on his permit prior to opening the

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facility, however, it has been opened for over 1 ½ and he still has not met the conditions.

- e) Senior Independent and Assisted Living Care (Eldercare) Housing Facility on Laurel Canyon Blvd.
- Mike made the motion requesting the Board to delegate the authority to the Planning committee to write a letter Senior Independent and Assisted Living Care (Eldercare) Housing Facility on Laurel Canyon and Jerome. The motion was seconded.
- The motion was put out for a vote
- The motion carried

These planning Items on agenda are subject to Discussion and Possible Action

ITEM 20: PUBLIC COMMENT – There was a comment from a community member but she didn't give her name. The speaker spoke regarding the Rim of the Valley project study.

ITEM 21: Adjournment – A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at approximately 08:15. The motion passed.