

**Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council
General Meeting Minutes for
Tuesday, February 12, 2013
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	Absent
Linda Housden	Board Member	Present
Susan A. Bartlett	Board Member	Absence excused
Imelda Padilla	Board Member	Present
Monica Vacas	Board Member	Present
Art Kalantarian	Board Member	Absent
Gerry Prieto	Board Member	Present
Carmen Perez	Board Member	Present
Luis Medina	Board Member	Absence excused
Mark Mardirossian	Board Member	Present
Barbara O’Gara	Board Member	Present
Gene Culley	Board Member	Present
Sergio Carvajal	Board Member	Present
Samuel ‘Sammy’ Palomino	Board Member	Present
Robert Lim	Board Member	Absent
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 06:35 pm
- The Pledge of Allegiance and SVANC’s Code of Civility were recited
- Gary took roll

ITEM 2: Opening Remarks, (President) Self- introduction of Board Members

- Gary stated that the Ethics Training will take place at the CBS studios on 2/21/2013, from 06:30 – 09:00 pm. This training is mandatory for all NCs’ board members and has to be taken every two years.
- Gary Aggas welcomed Board members and stakeholders. He asked fellow board members to introduce themselves, the street they live on, and/or what neighborhood/company they represent.
- Gerry Prieto, Crown Disposal
- Sam Khalaf, Realtor
- Sergio Carvajal, Urban Planning, lives on Vineland Avenue
- Samuel Palomino, lives in Sun Valley
- Carmen Perez, lives on Vineland, North Hollywood
- Mark Mardirossian, lives on Rincon
- Gene Culley, lives on Cantara St., Sun Valley

Minutes were approved as amended by the Board at the general meeting held March 12, 2013

- Monica Vacas, Sun Valley resident, lives on Lanark and Glenoaks
- Linda Housden, Sun Valley resident, retired nurse
- Imelda Padilla, Community organizer, lives on Norris and Penrose
- Gary Aggas, lives on Saticoy and Vineland
- Angelica Dueñas, lives near Saticoy and Vineland
- Barbara O’Gara lives near Cayuga and Sheldon
- Mike O’Gara lives near Cayuga and Sheldon
- Ms. Susan Bartlett lives on Edmore Place.

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.)

- Mike O’Gara stated that LAPD sent a letter stating that no LAPD officers would be present at any of the NCs meetings due to the current situation the City is facing. An LAPD officer will start attending meetings after this situation is resolved.

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

- A female CD office representative did not introduce herself but announced the following:
 - A public meeting for the Valley regarding the 2010-bicycle plan, will be held on February 21, 2013, 06:00-08:30 pm, at North Hollywood Regional Library off Tujunga. The subject of this meeting is the discussion of the 1st year strategy of the 5-year bicycle plan. For the Valley, a 6-mile bike-route has been discussed in the plan, which include: Whitley Avenue from Stagg to Chase; Devonshire from Haskell to Sepulveda; Lankershim from Cahuenga to Chandler—to-(inaudible) bridge—to—Ogden.
 - Public comments/written comments for this plan’s Draft EIR is open until March 4th, 2013, and all comments can be address to attn: Mr. David Summers
- A female, who did not introduced herself, was representing Congress member Cárdenas’ office, CA District 29 with the House of Representatives—113 Congress, stated that Congressman Cárdenas has been assigned to the following Committees:
- Committee on Natural Resources
 - Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources
 - Subcommittee on Indian and Alaska Native Affairs
 - Subcommittee on Water and Power
- Committee on Oversight and Government Reform
- Mr. Marco Sanchez, representative of Assembly member Raul Bocanegra, stated that the Assembly member is working on the Entertainment Tax Credit Bill—AB3, and is looking forward to expanding it to include the Entertainment Industry and Creative Arts Videos. Mr. Sanchez’ contact number is (818) 504-3911.
- Ms. Amelia Herrera-Robles, DONE representative, also reminded all Board members to take the Ethics training session again, and stated that DONE is holding a Regional Session on May 18th, 2013, regarding Council File Management System training, at the Marvin Braude Constituent Center, in Van Nuys, Ca

ITEM 4a: LAUSD Board Member Board Member Nury Martinez will speak on her candidacy for Council Member for CD6.

- Ms. Martinez, resident of Sun Valley, stated that she is working very hard to save the Aviation school at Van Nuys Airport. Ms. Martinez is looking to re-negotiate the lease agreement with the airport so the school can stay open. The program has about 100 students for a two-year program at about a cost of \$2,400 per student for the entire program. Ms. Martinez asked SVANC for their support for this program.

- Ms. Martinez is running for City Council because she wants to finish the environmental work she started at Pacoima Beautiful and wants to make the community environmentally safe to better the quality of life of its residents.
 - Mike O’Gara asked the following SVANC questions to candidates running for CD6: If elected as Councilmember for CD6, how would you deal with the following community concerns:
 - This year there will be a \$243 million shortfall in funding City Employees Pension and Medical Plans. How do you propose to remedy this problem?
 - If the proposed Sales Tax passes, it will be sometime before the monies become available. How do you propose to deal with that problem?
 - If the Business Tax is repealed how do you propose to replace the income?
 - Will you fight for conveyor belt systems to transfer dirt from the **LADWP Tujunga Spreading Grounds Enhancement Project** to the dumping site? (Mr. Hal Messenger, Dept of Water & Power, 1111 N. Hope St Room 1044, Los Angeles Ca. 90012, 213.367.1276)
 - **Trash and Recycling Facilities (Sun Valley has three new facilities in development)**
 - Will you work with CD2, CD7 and our community to oppose any new trash or recycling projects/facilities in Sun Valley that are **NOT fully enclosed**?
 - Will you work with CD2, CD7 and our community to ensure mitigations and permit conditions developed for the nearby **Athens** (Athens Service, 11121 Pendleton Street, Case no. ZA-1998-427-CUZ-PA1-1A, CEQA no. ENV-2012-264-CE.) and Waste Management projects, are included in the mitigations and permit conditions for the proposed **Community Recycling and Resource Recovery Project** including **tipping fees**? (Presently known as Crown Disposal, 11300 W. Pendleton St and 9189 De Garmo Ave, Case No: CPC-2008-4336-CU-ZV-SPR, CEQA No: ENV-2006-6373-EIR. Hearing Officer: Daniel O’Donnell, 818.374.9907)
 - Will you **presently** support an immediate moratorium on public meetings and project-related actions/decisions on the "Community Recycling" project until a reasonable time AFTER a new CD6 representative has been elected and that Council office is informed about the project and engaged with our community? This project is being rushed through the EIR and Planning Commission review process *right now*, while CD6 lacks Council representation.
 - Because extensive changes are recommended in the "Community Recycling" project and Final EIR, including our demand for full enclosure, will you demand its EIR be re-done and re-circulated to ensure the project is given appropriate environmental, governmental and community review?
 - **Large, Heavy, Noisy and Diesel Polluting Truck Traffic (Trash, Gravel and Auto Salvage Operators)**
 - Will you work with CD2, CD7 and community groups to significantly reduce diesel emissions and reduce the volume of such trucks on Sun Valley roads by diverting and re-routing these trucks to more industrial neighborhoods and freeway exits?
 - **Basic Services**
 - What will you do to increase the efficiency and responsiveness of Building and Safety and Planning to ensure code compliance in Sun Valley, specifically enforcement and elimination of commercial/industrial use of residential properties?
 - Will you commit to crack down on the illegal signage that is rampant in Sun Valley? This is a major source of our local urban blight.
 - Will you commit to not supporting ANY new city-wide bond measures/debt, taxes and fees until significant operational, financial and management reforms reduce the City’s \$200 million-plus budget deficit by at least 50%?

SVANC’s board requests a written response to the above stated questions no later than March 8, 2013.

Minutes were approved as amended by the Board at the general meeting held March 12, 2013

ITEM 4b: Presentation by Caltrans on the I-5 Corridor Improvements in the Sun Valley Area community. The Caltrans representative will also distribute brochures, fact sheets and information cards during the meeting.

- Ms. Claudia Mejia, Caltrans, distributed various maps of the areas being developed by Caltrans, and which are closest to Sun Valley. The updated map closest to Sun Valley is titled the Construction Activities Map shows all of the activity in the Sun Valley area. This map's projects are on schedule, except for the delays due to the weather conditions. One of the delays caused the Sound Wall on the northbound at the Sheldon Street on-ramp to start construction of the wall in March 2013 with a completion date projected to be in June.
- Ms. Mejia said that the median work on Lanark will start in March and is projected to be completed in September. Then the contractor will begin working on Stage II, Phase III of the project—which is the last Phase of this project.
- Ms. Mejia stated that the ramp is closed for the 118/170 project—the bridge is projected to be open in March. For more information on the closure impacts and detours on any project, register online and you will get updated notifications via email.
- Ms. Mejia stated that the Burbank project is projected to begin in June.

ITEM 4c: Presentation: a brief project update of the East San Fernando Transit Corridor Project and questions and answers to follow.

- Ms. Megan M., Metro, said that the East San Fernando Transit Corridor study has been going on since 2011 and they have held 11 pre-scoping meetings and will now move to the environmental phase. The environmental phase scoping meetings will be held on March 16, at Panorama High, 10-12noon; March 19, at the San Fernando Aquatic Center, 6-8 pm; March 21, at Arleta High, 6-8 pm; and, March 27, Van Nuys Civic Center, 4-6 pm.

ITEM 5: Public Comment on matters within the Board's subject-matter jurisdiction.

- None

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

- Carmen Perez said that an incident had occurred at Roscoe Elementary School in the English class but no one was affected. Carmen also invited everyone to a clean-up event at the school on Saturday, February 16, 2013, 08:00 am – 02:00 pm.

OLD Business:

ITEM 7: Review, correct and approve minutes from our January 8th 2013 Board meeting.

- The motion was put out for a vote
- The motion carried

NEW Business:

ITEM 8: Committee Chair Volunteers

- Outreach: Monica said that she's called Glenwood Elementary's Principal twice but has not gotten a return call.
- Planning: Monica said that their committee held a meeting on January 29th and Chuck F., Montahi Development, gave a presentation regarding the 8554 Glenoaks Blvd. project and he has changed the project: they are going to build 164 units, and now they've joined venture with another investor and will develop the entire vacant area.
- Community Affairs: None
- By-Laws: None
- Treasurer: Mike stated that at next month's meeting, an account will be given as to the amount spent year-to-date and what is left in Discretionary funds for the remaining of the fiscal year.
- Beautification: None

ITEM 9: Complete The Mayors Annual Budget Survey (O’Gara)

- SVANC’s board completed the survey as it was being read, item-by-item, at the meeting.

ITEM 10: Discussion regarding the buildup of trash on Tujunga/Peoria between Bradley and Glenoaks (Susan A. Bartlett)

- (The speaker didn’t identify himself) but stated that he took pictures of this area showing about two blocks of trash, and a huge pile of concrete (about 6’ high and 15’ wide). He also took a picture of one of four cameras, which is on a telephone pole and suggested finding out if these are working cameras. The primary issue is public safety.
- (The speaker didn’t identify himself) suggested taking the 4’ high concrete blocks (K-rails) the City uses for construction and place them on this spot; this might dissuade further dumping, especially with the signs and cameras.

ITEM 11: Motion /Discussion/Vote to form a Sun Valley Homeless Committee.

- Gary and Mike requested a volunteer to Chair this Committee.
- Linda said that she agrees to form this committee with as many volunteers as possible. Linda will agree to partially commit to this committee in as much as others are willing to volunteer for this committee as well. Also, Linda would like to set goals, as a team, and get a ‘job description’ for this committee. Linda also suggested talking to John Horn regarding what his goals are for this project in the future.
- Mike suggested that SVANC create the ‘job description’ for this committee. Mike added that the objective of this project is to get as many homeless people off the park and provide them with transitional housing and services.
 - The motion was put out for a vote
 - The motion carried
- Mike made the motion to have Linda and Gene to co-chair this committee
 - The motion was put out for a vote
 - The motion carried

ITEM 12: Discussion and update of the Fire House 77 Beautification Project

- Mike said that they are waiting to get the decision about the grant funds.

ITEM 13: Update on **Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition** (LANCC) (Aggas)

- Gary said that he attended this meeting, in Hollywood—which is on the first Saturday of every month, and added that the Coalition invites the decision-makers to attend and give presentations and to answer questions from the coalition members. Gary added that it is a very informative meeting and extended an invitation to anyone who is interested in attending this meeting. Gary said that the minutes of each meeting are posted on LANCC’s website www.lanccoalition.org .

ITEM 14: Update on the **Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils** (VANC) (O’Gara)

- Mike stated that the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (VANC) will hold a mixer in March 2013, at Carlas on CBS’ lot. Mike will send info as more details are available.
- Mike added that VANC is made up of 32 NCs in the Valley and the meeting is held on the second Thursday of every month. Mike is a member of VANC’s Executive Board. Mike also encouraged anyone interested to attend, since they are very informative meetings.

ITEM 15: Update of **Neighborhood Council Plan Review** and Reform Initiative. (Aggas)

- Gary said that he attends the meeting every two weeks, and one of the subjects discussed was about the NCs’ Factual Basis Standard/Status/Category, which by

Minutes were approved as amended by the Board at the general meeting held March 12, 2013

general consensus of the meeting's attendees was that it should be decided by individual NCs.

ITEM 16: Update of rental of our Office. (O'Gara)

- Mike said that the office is in a building owned by CARE ministries. About five years ago, CARE ministries requested a zoning and planning application to build a K-12 grade high school and a nursing school. This building will most likely be torn down within the next year. However, in the meantime, Mike and Gary are exploring other possible places to relocate SVANC's offices.

ITEM 17: Update of PlanCheckNC meeting the 2nd Saturday of the month (Sergio Carvajal)

- Sergio said that one of the main subjects of concern is the illegal signage; Allen B, L.A. City Planning, stated that those responsible for a lot of the visual clutter, which stems from legal billboards and advertisement, will face a \$48k/day penalty.
- Sergio also talked about the mural ordinance that will be presented in about three weeks. Any home can paint their homes within the limitations of the mural ordinance and can get approval/permit through the City Department of Cultural Affairs.
- Sergio added that SVANC is encouraged to present their concerns to their City Council's representatives and/or their City Department's representatives.

ITEM 18: Discussion and possible action of the items on the last Planning Committee Agenda: MOTION/ DISCUSSION/VOTE to allow the planning Committee to write a response to:

-Crown Disposal Final Environmental Impact (FEIR) report for the hearing on March 8th: Mike said that about three months ago Crown Disposal, aka Community Recycling, representatives Fred James and Chip Clements attended a SVANC's meeting, presented the project's charts and discussed the FEIR. Mike added that the company processes waste in open air, is not enclosing the C&D waste nor the Municipal solid waste.

-Mike stated that SVANC needs to respond to Crown Disposal's FEIR and asked permission of SVANC's board to its Planning Committee to write a letter and present it at the March 8th, 2013 hearing opposing the facility unless all three areas are enclosed.

- The motion was put out for a vote to allow SVANC's planning committee to write a letter per the details above.
- The motion carried

-The LADWP Tujunga Spreading Grounds (TSG) Environmental Impact Report (EIR).

- Mike said that the Tujunga Spreading Grounds are around Roscoe and Sheldon up to Arleta and Sheldon; they are 8' deep and they want to change it to 18' deep. It is projected that they are going to take out a couple of hundred-thousand cubic-yards of dirt and are planning on moving it to the Vulcan pit on Glenoaks. This movement of dirt is expected to be transported through 86,000 diesel-truck trips running past Byrd MS, Poly HS, and Sun Valley HS, which will cause negative health impacts on the children at these schools.

-7-11 Project on Rincon & Sheldon.

- Mike stated that the community is still waiting for a determination on that project.

-The Ratner Recycling Center at 10970 Ratner St., Sun Valley CA 91352

- Monica stated that this project will be included as an item on SVANC's next PLUM agenda. No Action taken on this item.

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

Minutes were approved as amended by the Board at the general meeting held March 12, 2013

ITEM 19: PUBLIC COMMENT - none

ITEM 20: Adjournment – the meeting adjourned at approximately 08:45 pm