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**Board Meeting Minutes - Regular  
 Tuesday, March 11, 2014  
 6:30pm – 8:30 pm**

Meeting Location:  
 Villa Scalabrini Retirement Center  
 10631 Vinedale Street  
 Sun Valley, CA 91352

Board Member	Title	Status
Gary Aggas	President	PRESENT
Mike O'Gara	1st Vice President	PRESENT
Mylo Koenig	2nd Vice President	PRESENT
Lysander Cuevas	Secretary	PRESENT (left ~7PM, excused)
Julie Monroy	Treasurer	PRESENT
Susan A. Bartlett	Board Member	PRESENT (in 6:44PM)
Sergio Carvajal	Board Member	PRESENT
Gene Culley	Board Member	Absent, excused
Don Harward	Board Member	Absent
Savannah Harward	Board Member	Absent, excused
Linda Housden	Board Member	PRESENT (in 6:45PM)
Sam Khalaf	Board Member	PRESENT
Mark Mardirossian	Board Member	PRESENT
Luis Medina	Board Member	Absent
Barbara O'Gara	Board Member	PRESENT
Samuel 'Sammy' Palomino	Board Member	Absent
Carmen Perez	Board Member	PRESENT
Gerardo 'Gerry' Prieto	Board Member	Absent
Monica Vacas	Board Member	PRESENT
<b>TOTAL (19)</b>		<b>13 Present, 6 Absent</b>

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

- Gary officially called the meeting of Sun Valley Neighborhood Council to order at 06:31pm
- The Pledge of Allegiance and SVANC's Code of Civility were recited
- Mr. Cuevas took roll

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

- Mr. Aggas welcomed all the board-members-elect. Attendees included Wendy Thum, Elizabeth Bille, Debbie Boyd, and Mark B. Allen.
- Mr. Aggas asked the Board members present to introduce themselves, state where they live, and state whether they've taken the Ethics and/or the Funding training:
- Mark Mardirossian, lives on Rincon. He has taken the Ethics & Funding training.
- Lysander Cuevas, lives on Wheatland Place. He has taken the Ethics & Funding training.
- Gary Aggas, lives near Saticoy and Tujunga. He has taken the Ethics & Funding training.
- Mylo Koenig lives on Colwell Drive. He has taken the Ethics & Funding training.
- Monica Vacas, lives on Lanark and Glenoaks. She has taken the Ethics & Funding training.
- Julie Monroy, lives in Glendale. She has taken the Ethics & Funding training.
- Sergio Carvajal, lives off Vineland Ave.. He has taken the Ethics & Funding training.
- Barbara O'Gara lives on Cayuga & Sheldon. She has taken the Ethics & Funding training.
- Mike O'Gara lives near Cayuga & Sheldon. He has taken the Ethics & Funding training
- Sam Khalaf lives on Oneida Ave. He has taken the Ethics training.
- Carmen Perez, crossing guard at Roscoe Elementary School. She has taken the Ethics training.

### **ITEM 3: Emergency Personnel from Fire and Police Departments**

Officer Esther Vasquez, Senior Lead Officer

- Officer Vasquez gave the following crime update: crime is still below at a -08% in the Sun Valley area; there were 7 cars stolen; 4 cars were broken into where tools were stolen; a couple of property thefts; and 2 robberies—1 bank robbery and 1 robbery of an elderly person by a caretaker; and 1 homicide at Dora and San Fernando Rd.
- Officer Vasquez said that they did a vice detail with an impromptu task force and 7 people were arrested on Lankershim and Saticoy. Additionally, 2 shopping cart details were done in Sun Valley Park. She said they are working with CD6 to secure storage lockers in the area for items taken during the cart detail activity to help with future cleanups.
- Officer Vasquez announced a SLO (Senior Lead Officer) Summit, April 16, 06:00pm, Church of the Nazarene, 12120 Strathern St., Sun Valley.
- Officer Vasquez announced a Domestic Violence information forum, April 25th, 06:00pm, Holy Rosary Church, 7800 Vineland Ave, Sun Valley.
- Officer Vasquez said that C-PAB organized an Emergency Preparedness Fair on Mar. 8th.
- Officer Vasquez stated that the LAPD has served two search warrants of Marijuana clinics and 15 letters were delivered to clinics not in compliance. Some have already closed.
- Officer Vasquez introduced Officer McMillan, Acting Senior Lead Officer, of the area that includes North of the 5 Fwy, North of Sun Valley and parts of Shadow Hills.
- Officer McMillan stated that there was an impromptu vice task force on Lankershim last week and about 10 'Johns' were arrested for prostitution. A pimp was also arrested for human trafficking. The names of those arrested will be released.
- Officer McMillan said there was an increase in thefts of catalytic converters in cars here in the valley; and an increase in aggravated assaults (assaults with a deadly weapon).

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

- Mr. Gavidia thanked the SVANC for their leadership and participation in the Affordable Care Act clinic at the Sun Valley Recreation Center. Mr. Mike O'Gara stated that about 40 people were enrolled that day.
- Mr. Gavidia said that he and Caesar Huerta, CD6, took a tour of the Sun Valley Post Office and met with Ms. Zella Knight and the Post Office's manager to discuss community concerns against its closure; however, during this meeting they were informed that the post office was going to close and the building will be sold, even though the USPS Regional office in Santa Clarita previously informed the Congressman's office, in writing, that it would not close "in the foreseeable future."
- Congressman Cárdenas' office called a press conference, along with community residents, to voice their concerns on this closure. Additionally, the Congressman wrote a letter to the US Postmaster General, Mr. Patrick Donahoe, regarding his and the community's opposition, and is planning on meeting with Mr. Donahoe in Washington DC in the near future. In the meantime, Congressman Cárdenas' staff will be meeting with the USPS union representatives.
- Mr. Gavidia thanked the community for the letters and petitions written in support of keeping the Post Office open, and encouraged the community to continue gathering more signatures and letters.
- Mr. Tim Beatty, Congressman Cárdenas' office, said they've been coordinating Affordable Care Act (ACA) events throughout their district. There are upcoming events at Lakeview Terrace Library and San Fernando High School.
- Mr. Caesar Huerta, CD6-Councilmember Martinez' field rep., said that Laurel Canyon Blvd, between Wicks and Roscoe Blvd., is in the process of getting resurfaced. People can visit the City's Bureau of Street Services website <http://bss.lacity.org/resurfacing> for a complete list of Valley streets scheduled for resurfacing..
- Mr. Huerta said that blight continues to be a problem in front of the Donation bins, and a lot of these bins are installed illegally and are encumbering on public right-of-ways. He added that a number of these bins have been removed.
- Mr. Huerta reported that there have been trespassing and graffiti issues at Cesar Chavez Park, as well as at the soon-to-open Skate Park, and asked for community assistance to report any suspicious activities by calling the LAPD's non-emergency number.
- In reply to SVANC board member Julie Monroy's question, Mr. Huerta said that no name has yet been chosen for the skate park by the Recreation and Parks Commissioners.
- Mr. Huerta thanked LAPD Officers Vasquez and McMillan for doing an outstanding job with the illegal marijuana collectives that have been closed in the community.

- Mr. Huerta said that CD6's website will be launched in the near future.
- Ms. Lorraine Diaz, Councilmember Krekorian's field rep., announced that the Sanitation Dept. is having an open house April 26, 9-1:30pm at the local Sun Valley regional facility.
- Ms. Diaz corrected information she gave at last month's meeting regarding the location of Vallarta Market on Vineland & Sherman Way, clarifying that this market is located in the city of Burbank, thus the City of L.A.'s plastic bag ordinance does not apply to them.
- Ms. Diaz spoke to the President of Eagle Foods regarding the illegal dumping and trash left around the area of their facility on San Fernando Road and Arvilla. Their president said he was unaware of the problem but instructed his maintenance personnel to clean it up.
- Ms. Diaz said that Sun Valley Middle School won a LADWP grant to put up a water conservation mural on their campus. The school is an Environmental Science Magnet.
- Ms. Diaz said that the Metropolitan Water District is offering a \$75 rebate for purchase or rain barrels, which normally cost between \$85-\$100; for more information, visit <http://socalwatersmart.com> for an online application.
- Ms. Diaz said that some streets in Sun Valley will be slurry sealed to extend the life of the street; for questions on the streets on the list contact Ms. Diaz.
- Ms. Diaz added that she spoke to Richard Mark, corporate communication Director for USPS, and read a letter from him that included the following comment "the USPS has no intention of discontinuing a post office operation for the Sun Valley community..." To get a copy of the complete letter, please contact Ms. Diaz. She also stated they told her they would re-examine possible sale or lease-back options in July. Mr. O'Gara said that the USPS is planning on moving the location of the retail services and this is of concern to the community because of the negative economic impact it will have on local businesses. Additionally, Mr. O'Gara added that the Post Office boxes will probably be relocated to Burbank. Ms. Diaz said that the Postmaster's staff has denied the rumors that the building will be sold. Mr. O'Gara asked that a copy of the letter be forwarded to SVANC's board.
- Ms. Carmen Perez, SVANC board member, said that a lot of the Roscoe Elementary parents are in opposition of the post office closure, and have begun a petition with signatures to this effect and are willing to organize protests in front of the post office. Ms. Diaz responded that a protest at the present time is not necessary because the USPS, by law, is required to provide a 30-day notice for public input.
- Ms. Sarah Ramsawack and Mr. Adams also commented briefly about the post office.

**ITEM 5: Public Comment** on matters within the Board's subject-matter jurisdiction.  
Members of the public are limited to three (3) minutes per speaker.

- Mr. Daniel Salazar, spoke about the Sun Valley Park Spring Event –please see item #14.
- Juan Gonzales, So Cal Gas Co., said that the Gas Company will modify the front face plate of all the meters, which will allow the gas company to gather information about your residence/business gas usage electronically. These changes are being planned to take place within the next 30-45 days. This change will not affect the regular billing cycle.
- Jorge Castaneda, Nextdoor.com organizer, said Nextdoor was created to build stronger and safer neighborhoods through technology and encouraged everyone to join.
- Jack Lindblad is running for California Senate's 18th District

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

- Mr. O'Gara said that SVANC members will meet in front of the Post Office on Thursday, March 13th, at 1:00pm to gather signatures for a petition against the relocation of the post office and the sale of the building. The community's primary concern is the negative economic impact this will have on the local businesses and the community as a whole.
- Ms. Housden announced that the Latino Alliance for Animal Care Coalition is hosting an animal welfare community summit, March 31, 06:00-08:00pm, at East Valley Animal Shelter on Vanowen. The event is free and open to the public.
- Ms. Julie Monroy announced that this was her last board meeting and she would not be attending next month. The Board thanked Ms. Monroy for all her hard work, dedication and service over the last 7 years as a member of SVANC's board.
- Julie Monroy asked for volunteers to help at the North Hollywood Northeast NC election Thursday, March 20th. They helped with the SVANC election.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- ITEM 7:** Review, correct and approve minutes from our **February 11th, 2014** Board Meeting.
- Mr. O'Gara made a motion to accept the minutes of the February 11th, 2014 Board meeting **as amended** and it was seconded by Ms. Monroy
  - The motion was on the floor for discussion and for a vote
  - **The motion carried unanimously (12/0)**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**ITEM 8: Committee Chair Volunteers:**

Outreach: Mr. O'Gara added that the outreach activities have been concentrated around keeping the post office open.

Elections: Mr. Aggas thanked the board members who assisted with the last Saturday's election. The budget for election activities was originally \$3,600, and to date there is approximately \$2,211.34 unspent.

Sun Valley Homeless: Ms. Housden read an email from Mr. Jonathan Leeper, newly elected to SVANC's board, which stated that he has resigned from Hope of the Valley Rescue Mission, thus will not continue as a board member of SVANC.

Treasurer: Please see items 9, 10, 11 below.

Beautification: no report

C-PAB: Mr. Mylo Koenig said that he attend his first C-PAB meeting last month. Ms. Bartlett stated that C-PAB meets every second Thursday of the month, Japanese Center on Branford one block W. of Laurel Canyon, 06:00pm-07:30pm.

VANC: Mr. O'Gara said that there are 36 NCs in the Valley represented by VANC. VANC meets on the 2nd Thursday of every month, at Sherman Oaks Hospital. Mr. O'Gara added that the guest speaker this month will be Ms. Marcie Edwards, newly confirmed LADWP GM.

PlanCheck: Mr. O'Gara attended the meeting where Mr. Lara, Asst. Chief of LADBS Dept. passed out his contact information for any code violation issues.

LANCC: Mr. Aggas: This group meets every 1st Saturday of the month in Hollywood.

Marijuana Clinic Committee: Ms. Bartlett said that marijuana clinics are being monitored by the LAPD and many have closed thanks to the LAPD's efforts.

Planning: see item 18

**ITEM 9: Motion/Discussion/Vote to approve the Treasurer's Report.**

- Ms. Monroy thanked her fellow board colleagues for their tremendous assistance with the budget and treasurer's reports during her tenure. Ms. Monroy gave the following Treasurer's Report for February 2014, for a total of \$71.21 on the P-Card:
  - Election expenses for \$14.74 for advertisement expenses on Facebook
  - Pizza for last month's general meeting, \$56.47
- Ms. Monroy stated that the expenditures as of February 2014 total \$12,870.97. Ms. Monroy added that outstanding commitments total \$12,589.52, which includes: rent, translation and transcription services, pizza and water for each meeting, Time Warner cable (internet access), election expenses, office supplies and minor miscellaneous items. The budget balance remaining for the fiscal year is \$11,539.51.
- Mr. Mardirossian made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report, seconded by Ms. Housden
- The motion was on the floor for discussion and for a vote
- **The motion carried unanimously (12/0)**

**ITEM 10: Motion/Discussion/Vote to approve last month's expenditures**

- February 2014 P-Card expenditures as itemized in item #9 total \$71.21
- Mr. Khalaf made a motion to accept the expenditures, seconded by Mr. Mardirossian.
- The motion was on the floor for discussion and for a vote
- Ms. Monroy took a roll call vote of eligible board members:

Yes – 9 - CARRIED	No – 0	Recuse – 0	Not Eligible – 3	Absent – 7
Aggas; Carvajal; Housden; Koenig; Mardirossian; Monroy; O'Gara, B.; O'Gara, M.; Vacas	NONE	NONE	Bartlett; Khalaf; Perez	Cuevas (left early); Culley; Harward, D.; Harward, S.; Medina; Palomino; Prieto

**ITEM 11: Motion/Discussion/Vote to approve the monthly budget (recurring costs)**

- Mr. Carvajal made a motion and was seconded by Mr. O'Gara to approve the monthly budget
- The motion was on the floor for discussion and for a vote
- Ms. Monroy took a roll call vote of eligible board members:

Yes – 9 - CARRIED	No – 0	Recuse – 0	Not Eligible – 3	Absent – 7
Aggas; Carvajal; Housden; Koenig; Mardirossian; Monroy; O'Gara, B.; O'Gara, M.; Vacas	NONE	NONE	Bartlett; Khalaf; Perez	Cuevas (left early); Culley; Harward, D.; Harward, S.; Medina; Palomino; Prieto

**ITEM 12: Motion/Discussion/Vote to approve to fund our account for next month's anticipated expenditures.**

- Ms. Monroy requests funding in the amount of \$2,000 to cover April's expenses, which includes: pizza, water, rent, Time Warner cable, Ricoh copier, and the 2 allocations for Park events (item 14), translation/transcription services & Facebook outreach.
- Mr. O'Gara made the motion and Mr. Carvajal seconded it
- Ms. Monroy took a roll call vote of eligible board members:

Yes – 9 - CARRIED	No – 0	Recuse – 0	Not Eligible – 3	Absent – 7
Aggas; Carvajal; Housden; Koenig; Mardirossian; Monroy; O'Gara, B.; O'Gara, M.; Vacas	NONE	NONE	Bartlett; Khalaf; Perez	Cuevas (left early); Culley; Harward, D.; Harward, S.; Medina; Palomino; Prieto

**ITEM 13: Motion/Discussion/Vote to approve the Recycled Water Advisory Group (RWAG) Consensus Statement that concludes that properly implemented, indirect potable reuse of purified recycled water will be a reliable and safe component of the Los Angeles water supply.**

- Mr. O'Gara said he has been attending these meetings for the last four years; this group meets about every four months. Mr. O'Gara said that all the discharged water is treated at the Tillman plant. After purification some of it comes back through the purple pipes. Mr. O'Gara stated that RWAG concluded that properly implemented, indirect, potable reuse of purified recycled water will be a reliable and safe component of the Los Angeles water supply.
- The motion was made by Mr. O'Gara and it was seconded by Mr. Aggas
- The motion was on the floor for discussion and for a vote
- **The motion carried unanimously (12/0)**

**ITEM 14: Motion/Discussion/Vote to spend up to but not to exceed \$150.00 each for the Spring Celebrations at Sun Valley Park and Fernangeles Park.**

- Mr. Aggas made the motion and was seconded by Mr. O'Gara
- The motion was on the floor for discussion and for a vote
- Daniel Salazar stated that the Sun Valley Park Spring event will be held on March 29th
- Mr. O'Gara stated that SVANC will have a booth at this event for outreach to the community and SVANC's logo will also be included on the event's flyer
- Ms Monroy took a roll call vote of eligible board members:

Yes – 9 - CARRIED	No – 0	Recuse – 0	Not Eligible – 3	Absent – 7
Aggas; Carvajal; Housden; Koenig; Mardirossian; Monroy; O'Gara, B.; O'Gara, M.; Vacas	NONE	NONE	Bartlett; Khalaf; Perez	Cuevas (left early); Culley; Harward, D.; Harward, S.; Medina; Palomino; Prieto

**ITEM 15: Motion/Discussion/Vote to spend up to but not to exceed \$150.00 for certificates to outgoing Board Members.**

- Mr. O'Gara made a motion to table this item and it was seconded by Mr. Aggas
- The motion was on the floor for discussion and for a vote
- **The motion to table was carried unanimously (12/0)**

**ITEM 16: Update on the Sun Valley Post Office closing.**

- Discussion took place regarding this subject under items 4 and 6

**ITEM 17: Motion/Discussion/Vote to allocate up to \$20.00 per month for our ongoing presence on Facebook**

- Mr. Aggas said that SVANC is getting very positive results from its presence on Facebook
- Mr. Aggas made the motion and was seconded by Ms. Vacas
- The motion was on the floor for discussion and for a vote
- Ms. Monroy took a roll call vote of eligible board members:

Yes – 9 - CARRIED	No – 0	Recuse – 0	Not Eligible – 3	Absent – 7
Aggas; Carvajal; Housden; Koenig; Mardirossian; Monroy; O’Gara, B.; O’Gara, M.; Vacas	NONE	NONE	Bartlett; Khalaf; Perez	Cuevas (left early); Culley; Harward, D.; Harward, S.; Medina; Palomino; Prieto

**ITEM 18: Discussion and Possible Action of the items on the last Planning Committee Agenda:**

- The Petaluma project; Mr. O’Gara stated the developer of this project, which is in CD2 area of Sun Valley, wants to build 12 houses on Petaluma off Roscoe. He added that the community is not in favor of this project
  - The Community Recycling application: Mr. O’Gara said that he and Mr. Aggas have met with personnel from CD7 and CD6 and from the Recycling facility who have now agreed to enclose all three of their buildings.
  - Athens Recycling: Mr. O’Gara said that this is another waste facility presently under construction which will be on 10,000 square feet taking in 1,500 tons a day of trash.
  - LA Paper Stock: Mr. O’Gara said that this is another waste facility located on Tuxford and San Fernando Rd. with an application to expand their intake of Waste materials.
  - News about all other pending planning projects.
- **These planning items on agenda are subject to Discussion and possible Action.**
  - **The Land Use Committee meets the 4th Monday of every month.**

**ITEM 19: PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- Mr. O’Gara said that board members should consider what committees they would like to belong to in preparation for the next meeting.
- Ms. Diaz, CD2, said that their office Planning Deputy met with the Petaluma developer's representative and informed them to take the plans to the community and added that the Councilmember's office will not approve a plan that the community is against.
- Ms. Monroy said that Senator Padilla's staff had a meeting to try to find a location to hold a Citizenship workshop. Ms. Monroy mentioned that this workshop was held in Sun Valley in the past and it was very successful, and hopes to be able to have it here again. Ms. Monroy added that SVANC had assisted with roughly \$500 for the copy machines at the event. Ms. Monroy stated she would like to continue on the SVANC Outreach Committee to help with this event.
- Mr. O’Gara added that this has been one of the most successful events in the community.
- Mr. Khalaf stated that graffiti on freeway walls can be reported to Caltrans at (661) 775-5465.
- Ms. Bartlett said that Graffiti Busters works with Caltrans.

**ITEM 20: Adjournment:** a motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Mr. O’Gara at approximately 08:39 pm.