



Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council

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Sun Valley CA 91353-0457
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Website: WWW.SVANC.COM

Regular Board Meeting MINUTES
Tuesday, November 9, 2021
6:30 pm – 8:30 pm
(DRAFT)

Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council

Zoom Webinar ID #: 987 6658 0221

* No training sessions completed, not eligible to vote **No funding training, not eligible to vote on fund matters

BOARD MEMBER	BOARD POSITION	PRESENT	ABSENT	NOT VOTING ELIGIBLE
Chávez, Norma O. Secretary	At-Large Stakeholder Director	x		
Danielian, Serj	Residential Stakeholder Director	x		
García, Rosalio	Residential Stakeholder Director	x		
García, Steven	Business Stakeholder Director	x		
Hill, Emilie A. Treasurer	Residential Stakeholder Director	x		
Lee, Lily	Business Stakeholder Director	x		
O’Gara, Mike 2nd Vice President	At-Large Stakeholder Director	x		x
Portillo, Oscar Jr.	Residential Stakeholder Director	x		
Power, Richard Vice President	Business Stakeholder Director	x		
Ryan, Mark P.	Business Stakeholder Director		x	
Thum, Wendy	Residential Stakeholder Director	x		
Vacas, Monica President	Business Stakeholder Director	x		
Venegas, Eddie	Community Interest Stakeholder		x	
Lionel Mares appointed at approximately 7:43 pm	Residential Stakeholder Director			
Mariam Moore appointed at approximately 7:43 pm	Residential Stakeholder Director			
TOTAL: 13	11 Present, 2 Absent, 1 Ineligible	11	2	1

ITEM 1: Monica Vacas called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken by Norma O. Chávez and quorum was established with thirteen members present. The Code of Civility was recited.

ITEM 2: President, Monica Vacas, welcomed attendees. Ms. Vacas shared that the redistricting is almost over and that she is glad Sun Valley is staying almost intact.

ITEM 3: EMERGENCY Personnel from Fire and Police departments

A. Senior Lead Officer Richard Wall

- Officer Wall thanked the teams from CD6 and CD2 for providing Care and Care Plus Clean-ups along Old San Fernando Road

- Officer Wall informed the Council that aggravated assault has increased.
- A shooting between two gangs occurred by Sunland Produce located on Sunland Blvd at around 4:30 pm. Fourteen shots were fired. The only victim was involved in the shooting. The good news is that Fenton school was already out so no children were in danger.
- Another shooting occurred on the 5 Freeway Sheldon St. exit on Sunday night. A person was shot on the leg.
- Burglary from motor vehicles has increased. Items are being stolen in a smash and grab way. Officer Wall recommended to the public to not leave any valuables in their cars.

ITEM 4: Announcements from elected officials or their representatives

A. Karla Maqueda (field deputy, CD6 Council President Nury Martinez, karla.maqueda@lacity.org)

- Booster Shots are available at the Mid Valley YMCA at 6901 Lennox Avenue from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.
- Food Drive on November 22 at the CD6 office on Laurel Canyon starting at 9:00 am.

B. Tiffany Zeytounian (field deputy, CD2 Council member Paul Krekoryan, tiffany.zeytounian@lacity.org)

- Program Care department of Aging will be collecting food, blankets, socks through December 6.
- Food Drive coming soon

C. Julissa Hernandez (district director from the office of Assemblywoman Luz Rivas, <mailto:julissa.hernandez@asm.ca.gov>)

- An Increase of asking for housing is key and unemployment benefits
- Any state issues, get help here
- Rental assistance, DMV and CalTrans call (818) 767-3907
- Lus Riva's Team in coordination with CalTrans and CD6 conducted a clean up at the Northbound Sheldon off ramp
- Homeless encampments from the Sheldon Exit off the 5 Fwy have moved to the sidewalk on Laurel Canyon Blvd. Discussions are taking place among all stakeholders to deal with this issue.

ITEM 5: Comments from the Empower LA representative Vanessa Serrano.

Vanessa Serrano was unable to attend the meeting due to conflict of schedule from other meetings. Ms. Serrano continues to provide support and feedback via e-mail.

ITEM 6: GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS which are within the Board's subject-matter jurisdiction

Jess Arana introduced himself as a candidate for LAUSD Board of Education District 6 and running against current member Kelly Gonez. He provided information on his background and qualifications and a statistics report on the various crime incidents that have occurred at local schools.

Samantha Verganza is a Community Ambassador at MEND. MEND is offering free food on Tuesdays and Fridays from 9:00 to 11:00 am. They are also offering Covid-19 vaccines for ages 5 and up. Boosters are also available. Please call (818) 877-2443.

ITEM 7: Board Member Comment on matters within the Executive Board's subject-matter jurisdiction that DO NOT appear on the agenda

Norma O. Chávez informed the Board that the Covid-19 Vaccination event scheduled for December the 4th was cancelled. Vanessa Serrano informed her that due to liabilities the City Clerk is advising Neighborhood Councils not to get involved with the planning of vaccination events.

ITEM 8: The Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council Board seats were reviewed:

- (4) seats available for At-Large Stakeholder (one term ends 2023, and three terms end 2025)
- (1) seat available for Business Stakeholder (term ends in 2023)
- (1) seat available for Community Interest Stakeholder (term ends in 2025)
- (1) seat available for Residential Stakeholder (term end in 2025)

There are also one year appointed positions for:

- (2) seats available for Senior Representative Stakeholder (age 55+, 1 year appointment, term ends approximately Spring, 2022)

(1) seat available for Youth Representative Stakeholder, (age 14-21, 1 year appointment, term ends approximately Spring, 2022)

Qualifications for all seats per the SVANC BYLAWS and STANDING RULES, further information and Candidate Filing Form are available at:

<https://www.svanc.com/board-candidate-appointments>

ITEM 9: Marcos Sanchez, CD6 District Director, Lorraine Diaz, CD2 District Director, and Tiffany Zeytounian, CD2 Field Deputy, provided an update on the homelessness crisis on San Fernando Road with focus on the corridor along Tuxford St. to Hollywood Way

Representatives from the neighboring business were present and shared safety concerns from employees and business owners around this area and the accumulation of RVs.

Tiffany Zeytounian’s update (CD2): There were about 30 RVs prior to the pandemic issue and hygiene services, septic tank pumping, cleanups, outreach were being provided weekly. During the pandemic, under the emergency declaration the City was not doing comprehensive cleanups. In addition, the Department of Transportation had a moratorium that they could not tow any vehicles or RVs that were being occupied and had someone dwelling in the vehicle. This resulted in an increase of vehicle dwelling in certain areas of the City. As of September 7, LA Sanitation resumed comprehensive cleanups. We get two comprehensive cleanups per week, so we are able to schedule cleanups biweekly and provide outreach to the people along San Fernando Road. We are coordinating with other agencies to provide services back to back. We are working on a solution for those who do not want to leave their vehicles behind when they accept housing. I ask residents and businesses to continue reporting any issues related to this area and call the LAPD if these are crime related.

Marcos Sanchez’s update (CD6): We work hand in hand to bring services and to clean these areas. Due to the resolution 41.18, we are introducing shelters, schools, and parks. We will be looking at railroads and public rights of way. We are compiling those lists. These resources previously mentioned only affect homeless encampments and trash. The Council is still working diligently to figure out what to do with vehicle dwelling. During the pandemic, 8502 sunset so there is nothing on the books when it comes to enforcement piece of getting that RV that is in a dilapidated state towed. Once there is a motion is introduced, we will look for this body’s support in the form of a Community Impact Statement and public comment from the community members. We are looking at dates at pilot programs to provide services to those RVs. We want to make sure folks get to a safe place.

Questions and answers from the public and SVANC board members took place.

It was recommended that cleanups took place in the surrounding areas of RVs. It might not be such a bad problem if those living in a vehicle/RV did not expand their dwelling over the sidewalks and that they kept their areas clean. Mr. Sanchez stated that this is part of what is being looked at as the City discusses a resolution to vehicle dwelling. It was also brought to the attention the increased illegal dumping around homeless encampments and areas densely populated by RVs. Ms. Zeytounian shared that many times the trash and bulky items are not coming from the encampment but rather from illegal dumping from businesses and other people coming and dumping into the area.

ITEM 10: Motion / Discussion / Vote to approve the appointment of Lionel Mares to an open Residential Stakeholder seat, term ends in 2025. **1st: Rosalío García; 2nd: Monica Vacas.** Mr. Mares made a statement as to why he would like to be part of the Board of Directors and some questions were asked from Board members. The motion was adopted with 10 votes in favor.

Yes - 10	No - 00	Recused- 00	Not Eligible - 01	Absent - 02
Chávez, Danielian, R. Garcia, S. Garcia, Hill, Lee, Portillo, Power, Thum, Vacas	NONE	NONE	O’Gara	Ryan, Venegas

ITEM 11: Motion / Discussion / Vote to approve the appointment of Mariam Moore to an open Residential Stakeholder seat, term ends in 2025 **1st: Rick Power; 2nd: Rosalío García** Ms. Moore made a statement as to why she would like to be part of the Board of Directors and some questions were asked from Board members. The motion was adopted with eleven votes in favor.

Yes - 11	No - 00	Recused- 00	Not Eligible - 01	Absent - 02
Chávez, Danielian, R. Garcia, S. Garcia, Hill, Lee, Mares, Portillo, Power, Thum, Vacas	NONE	NONE	O’Gara	Ryan, Venegas

ITEM 12: Motion / Discussion / Vote to approve to the appointment of Leonor Bennett to an open Senior Stakeholder seat, term ends in 2022 **1st: Rick Power, 2nd: Mike O’Gara**. Mrs. Bennett was having technical difficulties with zoom and was unable to open her microphone to speak. The Board decided to move along with the meeting and allow her to speak as she became available. No action was taken in this item.

ITEM 13: Motion / Discussion / Vote to approve submitting a letter of support to keep the Whiteman Airport. **1st: Rosalío García; 2nd: Monica Vacas**. The motion was adopted with 11 votes in favor.

Yes - 11	No - 01	Recused- 00	Not Eligible - 01	Absent - 02
Chávez, Danielian, R. Garcia, Hill, Lee, Mares, Moore, Portillo, Power, Thum, Vacas	S.Garcia	NONE	M O’Gara	Ryan, Venegas

ITEM 14: Motion / Discussion / Vote to approve to submit a CIS with letter to Council File No. 20-0668-S7 to state SVANC’s position to the latest Redistricting Map. **1st: Rick Power; 2nd: Emilie Hill**. The motion was adopted with 12 votes in favor.

Yes - 12	No - 00	Recused- 00	Not Eligible - 01	Absent - 02
Chávez, Danielian, R. Garcia, S. Garcia, Hill, Lee, Mares, Moore, Portillo, Power, Thum, Vacas	NONE	NONE	M O’Gara	Ryan, Venegas

ITEM 15: Motion / Discussion / Vote to reschedule the Tree Planting event from November 20 to December 18, 2021 **1st: Rick Power; 2nd: Mike O’Gara**. Discusiion took place. The Beautification committee chair is still working with all the agencies involved to coordinate the event and on selecting trees. The motion was adopted with 12 votes in favor.

Yes - 12	No - 00	Recused- 00	Not Eligible - 01	Absent - 02
Chávez, Danielian, R. Garcia, S. Garcia, Hill, Lee, Mares, Moore, Portillo, Power, Thum, Vacas	NONE	NONE	M O’Gara	Ryan, Venegas

ITEM 16: Motion / Discussion / Vote to send a letter of thanks to the three panelists for the second Clean Energy Forum **1st: Norma O. Chávez; 2nd: Monica Vacas**. Motion passed with 12 votes in favor.

Yes - 12	No - 00	Recused- 00	Not Eligible - 01	Absent - 02
Chávez, Danielian, R. Garcia, S. Garcia, Hill, Lee, Mares, Moore, Portillo, Power, Thum, Vacas	NONE	NONE	M O’Gara	Thum, Venegas

ITEM 17: Motion / Discussion / Vote to approve vacationing the SVANC’s December Executive Board and Board of Directors meetings to give board members family time between Thanksgiving and New Year’s. **1st: Rosalío García; 2nd: Rick Power**. Discussion took place. There was a tie of 6 yay votes and 6 nay votes so the motion failed. There will be a meeting in December.

Yes - 11	No - 06	Recused- 00	Not Eligible - 01	Absent - 02
Chávez, Danielian, S. Garcia, Lee, Mares, Moore	R. Garcia, Hill, Portillo, Power, Thum, Vacas	NONE	M O’Gara	Thum, Venegas

ITEM 18: Motion / Discussion / Vote to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on October 12, 2021. **1st: Norma O. Chávez moved to table the minutes from October 12, 2021; 2nd: Rick Power**. The minutes were tabled.

Yes – 12 (to table the minutes from October 12, 2021)	No - 00	Recused- 00	Not Eligible - 01	Absent - 02
Chávez, Danielian, R. Garcia, S. Garcia, Hill, Lee, Mares, Moore, Portillo, Power, Thum, Vacas	NONE	NONE	M O’Gara	Thum, Venegas

ITEM 19: Motion / Discussion / Vote to approve the Monthly Expenditure Report for October 2021. **1st: Emilie A. Hill moved to table the MER; 2nd: Norma O. Chávez.** Discussion took place and Emilie Hill informed the Council that the MER was ready but it was not posted 24 hours in advance. The MER was **tabled**.

Yes – 12 (to table the August MER)	No - 00	Recused- 00	Not Eligible - 01	Absent - 02
Chávez, Danielian, R. Garcia, S. Garcia, Hill, Lee, Mares, Moore, Portillo, Power, Thum, Vacas	NONE	NONE	Mike O’Gara	Thum, Venegas

ITEM 20: Report / Discussion by Committee Chairs and Community Liaisons:

A. Standing Committees:

1. Outreach/Community Affairs – Monica Vacas – we have a cleanup coming up on Saturday
2. Finance and Budget – Emilie A. Hill – the MER was not done in time, bills being paid in time.
3. Beautification – Wendy Thum – We are having a clean up on Ratner St. I want thank everyone who responded to my outreach email and please let me know if you will be able to volunteer, I need to make sure we have enough lunches for everybody. I need help from the carholders to make the purchase of snacks for breakfast. Norma O. Chávez did outreach to Ms. Madrigal from Poly High School to send more volunteers and put a least of an additional five volunteers. Susan Lustig has also conducted some outreach by posting the flyers on the SVANC website, Nextdoor, and Facebook.
4. Planning and Land Use (PLUM) – Norma O. Chávez I already shared all the information related to the Whiteman Airport and will email all Board members the link to the website where they can find all the details about the meetings from the Community Advisory Committee. I am hoping more people from Sun Valley join those meetings. The PLUM committee meeting has been moved to November the 17th because I need to attend the Community Advisory Committee meeting on the 18th
5. Public Safety/Emergency Preparedness - Oscar Portillo Jr. the committee is working on setting up an after school program to provide a free CERT class to students

B. Ad Hoc Committees:

1. High Speed Rail – Serj Danielan – an environmental report that covers the area from Burbank to LA Union Station has just been released. This is a 14 mile project that passes through Burbank and Glendale. It is separate from the one from Burbank to Palmdale. I want to give a brief description of the entire project. This is an 800 mile project with trains that go at speeds of up to 220 miles per hour. Phase I of this project covers the path from San Francisco to Anaheim, and phase II will connect the Central Valley to Sacramento and LA to San Diego. The project is moving slowly. According to the environmental study, there will be a higher level of nitro oxides in the area for the duration of the project.

Monica Vacas moved to extend the meeting ten minutes and Rosalío García seconded the motion. All agreed.

2. Homelessness – Steven Garcia – I wanted to report that it is important to acknowledge that we could all see the homeless crisis. But until recently there was an ordinance passed to actually help do something about this. I have observed some progress. City Council has voted to clean up some of those areas. City Council approve 2 million dollars to do outreach. There will be one coordinator per area to coordinate services.
3. Bylaws – Norma O. Chávez – will talk to Mr. Ryan and Ms. Vacas to get together to work on the Bylaws. I did some research and we do not have to hold a public meeting.
4. Elections – Norma O. Chávez- I got information released from the City about the elections from this year and coming elections for other regions. There were three applicants for this month and two have been appointed to the Board of Directors.
5. TCC – Wendy Thum – At the Clean Energy Forum from two weeks ago, a liaison from the Green Together came and discussed the solar panel project and did some outreach. Teachers contacted Emilie about that program to get more information.

C. City-wide community liaisons:

1. LANCC – Serj Danielian- no updates. If any of the new members would like to take over this I will be happy to let them take over. I cannot attend the meetings so I usually watch their recordings and look at their notes.
2. VANC – Monica Vacas out of 34 councils the community impact statements written they have been are meaningless. The VANC is trying to figure out how to get that power.
3. NCEPA – Oscar Portillo Jr. – the CERT programs will probably start in 2022. We do need a Spanish instructor.
4. PLANCHECKNC – Norma O. Chávez – shared throughout the meeting
5. NCBA – Emilie A. Hill – the first financial status report on 21-22 Budget was published on October 21st. It states that the City is doing well and it is fiscally healthy with revenue posting over expectations and the reserve funds is holding in spite of additions made to the budget last minute by some Council members. Revenues were up. They are working on balancing that portion of the budget.
6. C-PAB – Serj Danielian – According to the Police Chief, 255 officers are assigned to our police department. The Foothill Division is experiencing a shortage of 15 police officers. Some of the reasons for the shortages: the officers go through a lot. It is a tough job. They are being called derogatory terms. They are expected to be perfect. Officers appreciate the hellos and thank yous coming from the communities. Officers are retiring early. Last year, there were more guns in the streets than the rest of the six divisions combined. This year things are better. Homicides have gone down.

ITEM 21: Public Comment on matters within the Executive Board’s subject-matter jurisdiction that DO NOT appear on the agenda (comments only, no discussion, 2 minutes each)

Mr. Melendez thanked the neighborhood council for their work as he considers this council being one of the hardest working one in the Valley. The two City council members that support this neighborhood council have really thrown a wrenching at saving the Weddington Golf and Tennis. Council member Paul Krekorian has neutered the historical, cultural motion to save this jewel of the San Fernando Valley. Council member Nury Martinez has prevented the neighborhood councils from speaking on behalf of this effort. It is unbelievable that these councilmembers are letting this be destroyed. They claim the City is doing well. But all you have to do is look around and see how every bust stop is dirty, the City trash cans are not maintained the streets are falling apart, the lights are burned out, the parks are not being maintained.

ITEM 22: Board Members Announcements on matters within the Executive Board’s subject-matter jurisdiction that DO NOT appear on the agenda (comments only, no discussion, three minutes each) no comments

ITEM 23: Adjournment: 1st: Rick Power, 2nd: Rosalío García. Meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

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