



Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council

8720 Sunland Blvd
 Sun Valley CA 91353-0457
 Telephone 818-767-8262

Website: WWW.SVANC.COM

Regular Board Meeting MINUTES
Tuesday, April 8, 2025
6:00 pm – 7:50 pm

Meeting At
Hope Fellowship Church
 12055 Wicks St
 Sun Valley, CA 91352
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
Blandford, Ben	2nd Vice-President	X		
Carrasco, Yudicela	Residential Stakeholder Director	X		
Chávez, Norma O.	President	X		
García, Rosalio	Residential Stakeholder Director	X		
Rivera, Anthony	Secretary	X		
Sierra, Benjamin	Youth Representative Director		X	X
Sierra, Douglas	Business Stakeholder Director	X		
Thum, Wendy	Residential Stakeholder Director	X		
Vacas, Monica	Business Stakeholder Director	X		
Valle, Cindy I.	Treasurer joined at 6:06 pm	X		
Venegas, Eddie	1st Vice-President	X		
TOTAL: 11	Quorum: 7 (at least one officer)	10 Present, 1 Ineligible	1	1

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

Norma O. Chávez, president, called the meeting to order at 6:06 pm. and began the meeting by leading the Pledge of Allegiance and the Code of Civility. Roll call was taken by Eddie Venegas, Vice-President, and quorum was established with 10 members present at the time of roll call.

ITEM 2: Opening Remarks (President)

Ms. Chávez recognized the death of the victim Omar Oscar Hernandez in the recent murder of the Sun Valley native. Voiced a Call to Action from the community to assist in the GoFundMe for the victim.

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. No one present to provide updates.

ITEM 4: Presentation and conversation with Guest Speakers Council member Imelda Padilla and Empower LA General Manager Carmen Chan (60 minutes)

A. SVANC questions to Council member Imelda Padilla

- Introduced the new LA General Manager Carmen Chan
- What was the outcome of the meeting held with the Department of Transportation? How soon should we expect the Department of Transportation to begin conducting regular patrolling in Sun Valley and give citations to vehicles with parking violations: parked on sidewalks, parked perpendicularly, 72 hours, expired tags, preferential parking districts, and so on?
 - Suggested 2 to 4 weeks to respond to reports. Emphasized the need for more reporting.
- Many neighbors from the Sun Valley Recreation Center area have come to us to request support working on utilizing the recycling trust funds for their environmental injustice area. We request to move forward to start a community committee to decide how to use those funds to mitigate pollution issues in their area. They have shown interest in using those funds to provide sidewalks and bus shelters with the rotating shades.
 - Council Member reminded the community that the fund is not satisfactory enough to ensure major renovations. Suggested non-profits to complete tasks instead of using funds.
- The number of cannabis licenses for Sun Valley has increased from ten allowed under undue Concentration to twelve. What are you going to do to stop cannabis licenses getting approved when Sun Valley is saturated with licensed cannabis storefronts, as well as unlicensed storefronts and illegal home growth?
 - Difficulty in resolving this issue due to previous administrations decisions.
- Senator Menjivar proposed SB 526. Will you be proposing a similar motion at City Council?
 - Changes to Rory Shaw is opposed by a majority of employed people from Sun Valley.
- What are the steps to follow when a large pothole caused by heavy duty dumpster truck traffic is not being fixed because it is labeled “unimproved area”?
 - Fill out a report and make it known through the appropriate channels.
- The community would like to request that you bring a motion to the City Council to request that all developers post signs with contact information to report problems in/with their property. In addition, regular weekly maintenance of their property should be required.
 - Developers to maintain signs with contact information.
- More development is coming to Sun Valley and our zoning is not up to date. We request that you propose a motion to City Council to update the Community Plan from 1999. It is of sum importance that Sun Valley grows in a well thought out manner.
 - Updated community plan to be released within the following years.
- Mike O’Gara’s Square (on Sheldon St and Laurel Canyon) - How soon can we expect it to proceed or how can we help? Especially since the CM sits on the Public Works Committee.
 - Required to contact the department of public transportation and collect letters of support.
- Cindy Sower’s Square (on Lankershim Blvd where she had her business) - How soon can we expect it to proceed or how can we help? Especially since the CM sits on the Public Works Committee.
 - Must create signs to be fabricated and to then set a date for installation.
- Allgeheny Park - Three meetings were held in 2018 where we discussed all details for this park: fence, materials for welcome sign, landscaping, amenities, the clock, restrooms, walking path, the theme, and so on. The park was presented as a project and green space necessary for the community of the surrounding apartments. The meeting was attended by people from all the apartments on Sheldon and the community from Cayuga, Ilex, El Dorado, etc. When the artist was selected for the art for the park with theme “The Women of Sun Valley”, Deborah, the artist, said

there would be a panel to select the art that would be put at the park. However, there were no further meetings to discuss the criteria for the selection of those women portrayed in the art. However, we did have an understanding that the women would be from Sun Valley. Now we are being presented with a selection of 2 women from Sun Valley and the rest are not from Sun Valley and they get paid to do a job. These should not be for people who work and get paid, it should be about volunteerism. Only two women were people who do volunteer work (Cindy Sower and Vicky Burch) and everyone else (14) people who get paid to do the work. Mariam Moore is more deserving. Ana de Jesus and Isabel Gabriela Mendoza were nominees. It should be about people who are doing this for free. If not enough women, then open it up to men. There will be a QR code that takes to a website about the art, the 14 people who work can be included here. Concerned about the selection of the art. Criteria to be chosen, who chose them, panel to choose them?

- Understood the concern regarding the selection of the art. Working towards providing a solution to satisfy the community.
- Welcome to Sun Valley sign across the street from Kohls needs to be restored and lifted. SVANC has allocated \$500 to help restore that sign and bring it back up. Mr. Servera provided a quote to Wendy Thum of approximately \$4,000 from 3-4 years ago. It may have gone up. SVANC would like to move forward with this project. The Executive Committee is trying to figure out how to save money and use the resources we have available. We would like to partner with you and local businesses to restore this sign and make Sun Valley more welcoming.
 - Agreed to the renovation of the Sun Valley Sign.
- Armenian Genocide Memorial (at the Sun Valley Park near Cantara St surrounded by pomegranate trees) - It is important that we raise the plaque so that people can see it. If it is possible to work on it before April 24th so that it is before the remembrance day, even better. CM Padilla and CM Krekorian did a beautiful joint event last year at Sun Valley Park. CM Adrin Nazarian already knows about the plaque. Maybe raise the plaque? Have something where people can place flowers? Last year women from the community were very moved to find that the Sun Valley park had this memorial. They brought flowers and placed them on top of the plaque because there was nowhere else to put them. The trees look beautiful! We would like this to be a joint effort between SVANC, our council members, and local businesses.
 - Agreed to improving the memorial.
- Sidewalks - We need them where there are none. We understand that we are not the only neighborhood in CD6 that needs them, but we need a timeline on when we can expect this to occur.
 - Requested for a priority list and for specific sidewalks to be improved.
- Street lighting - Mentioned at the Public Works Town Hall. Sunland, Sheldon, Truesdale, and many more. We need a timeline on when we can expect the lights to be repaired.
 - Suggested for neighbors to show interest in Street lighting. Property tax is used to fund the Street Lighting.

B. SVANC questions to LA General Manager Carmen Chan

- Discussed the neighborhood council term limits and its effects regarding each distinct council.
- Reintroduced the budget concern regarding the budget deficit for neighborhood council

- Raised concern for more training for neighborhood council board members

ITEM 5: Presentation / Announcements from elected officials or their representatives

A. Loreli Vallejo (residential area), Nayda Cantabrana (industrial area) (Councilwoman Imelda Padilla, CD6, lorel.vallejo@lacity.com, nayda.cantabrana@lacity.org)

- Earth Day Event in collaboration with SVANC and the GR818ERS
- Armenian Genocide at the Van Nuys City Hall
- Neighborhood Watch for the Sun Valley Area

B. Dayana Ramos (field deputy), Diana Gonzalez (Homelessness) (Councilmember Adrin Nazarian, CD2, dayana.ramos@lacity.org, diana.x.gonzalez@lacity.org)

- Ninja Extreme Course from 6:30PM to 8:00PM
- CD2 Earth Day event from the streets Arvilla to Claybeck in collaboration with LADWP
- May 19 from 6:30AM-8:00PM is the Coffee and Conversation at the SVANC office

D. Gus Villela (Assembly member Celeste Rodriguez, 43rd District, gus.villela@asm.ca.gov, Office (818) 504-3911)

- DMV will be open from April 14th to June 27th Monday through Friday from 7am to 8pm
- May 3rd will be the Coffee and Conversation
- April 25th will be the Earth Day Cleanup from 8am to 12pm for the northbound 5 Sheldon Street on and off ramp

H. Katherine Castrejon (Office of CA State Senator Caroline Menjivar, 20th District, Katherine.Castrejon@sen.ca.gov)

- Third annual pride event on Saturday June 28th. Will start at Van Nuys and Sherman Way until the Civic Center and will begin at 1pm.
- May 24 will be Coffee and Conversation with the Senator at the SVANC's office from 10:00 am to 11:30 am

ITEM 6: Comments from the Empower LA Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate (NEA) Lorenzo Briceno (lorenzo.briceno@lacity.org) unable to attend due to conflict with training schedule

- Recommended the Neighborhood Council to discuss with the Parks and Rec Director about using their facilities
- Any financial concerns made by the Neighborhood Council needs to be agendized.

ITEM 7: GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS which are within the Board's subject-matter jurisdiction (comments only, no discussion)

- Public drew concern for the recent financial events such as the stock market and recommended two books.
- Public explained the significance of the Rory Shaw Wetlands Park Project and how it is pivotal to the history of the San Fernando Valley.

ITEM 8: Board Member Comment on matters within the Board's subject-matter jurisdiction that DO NOT appear on the agenda (comments only, no discussion) No commentary

Note: Consent calendar items 9A – 9D are considered to be non-controversial and will be treated as one agenda item. There will be no discussion on these items unless an item is removed from the consent calendar, in which case it will be considered as time allows on the regular agenda. Any member of the Board may request that an item be removed.

ITEM 9: Consent Callender: one motion and one vote

A. Approval of the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting held on April 9, 2024 (Venegas, Chávez)

B. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on February 11, 2025 (Chávez)

- C. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on March 11, 2025 (Rivera, Chávez)
- D. Approval of the Monthly Expenditure Report for February 2025 (C. Valle)

Norma Chavez moved to remove Item 9A with no objections. 1st: Rosalío Garcia, 2nd: Cindy Valle. Roll call vote took place and the motion was approved with 10 votes in favor and 1 absent. The minutes for February 11, 2025, the minutes for March 11, 2025, and the MER for February 2025 were approved.

Yes-10	No - 00	Recused - 00	Abstained - 00	Not Eligible - 00	Absent - 01
Blandford, Carrasco, Chávez, Garcia, Rivera, D. Sierra, Thum, Vacas, Valle, Venegas,	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	B. Sierra

ITEM 10: Motion / Discussion / Vote to approve a community cleanup along the San Fernando Rd. Bike Path from Sunland Blvd to Hollywood Way on Saturday, May 31, 2025 from 8:00 am to 11:00 am in partnership with Council District 2 and with local businesses to provide food and beverages for the volunteers (Valle, Beautification)

1st: Cindy Valle, 2nd: Eddie Venegas and Rosalio Garcia. Discussion took place. Roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with 10 votes in favor and 1 absent.

Yes-10	No - 00	Recused - 00	Abstained - 00	Not Eligible - 00	Absent - 01
Blandford, Carrasco, Chávez, Garcia, Rivera, D. Sierra, Thum, Vacas, Valle, Venegas,	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	B. Sierra

ITEM 11: Motion / Discussion / Vote to approve the retroactive expense made to purchase popcorn and popcorn supplies for up to \$70 needed for the Grand Opening of the DeGarmo Park X- 3 Treme Ninja Course event on March 28 (Chávez)

1st: Eddie Venegas, 2nd: Yudicela Carrasco. Discussion took place. Roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with 9 votes in favor, 1 illegible and 1 absent. There were no objections.

Yes-09	No - 00	Recused - 00	Abstained - 00	Not Eligible - 01	Absent - 01
Blandford, Carrasco, Chávez, Garcia, D. Sierra, Thum, Vacas, Valle, Venegas,	NONE	NONE	NONE	Rivera	B. Sierra

Eddie Venegas moved to extend the meeting 15 minutes and Rosalio Garcia seconded it. There were no objections.

ITEM 12: Motion / Discussion / Vote to approve a Letter/Resolution/Community Impact Statement to support **Council File 25-0006-S56** East San Fernando Valley / Disproportionate Burden / Debris Transport / Facilities and Landfills / Haul Routes / Hazardous Waste / Equitable Distribution / 2025 Wildfire Emergency Response and Recovery (D. Sierra) 1st: Cindy Valle, 2nd: Monica Vacas. Roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with 10 votes in favor and 1 absent.

Yes-10	No - 00	Recused - 00	Abstained - 00	Not Eligible - 00	Absent - 01
Blandford, Carrasco, Chávez, Garcia, Rivera, D. Sierra, Thum, Vacas, Valle, Venegas,	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	B. Sierra

ITEM 13: Motion / Discussion / Vote to approve a Letter/Resolution/Community Impact Statement to oppose **Council File 24-1584** (related motion CF- 23-0002-S149) Cannabis Regulation / Temporary Licenses / Cannabis Event / Cannabis Consumption Lounge / AB 1775 (Haney) (Chávez)
Norma Chavez moved to table the item and Cindy Valle second. There were no objections.

ITEM 14: Motion / Discussion / Vote to approve a Letter/Resolution/Community Impact Statement to support **Council File 24-0002-S16** SB 680 (Rubio) / Sex Offenders Registration / Unlawful Sexual Acts / Minor Sexual Exploitation (Chávez) **1st**: Rosalio Garcia, **2nd**: Cindy Valle. Roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with 10 votes in favor and 1 absent.

Yes-10	No - 00	Recused - 00	Abstained - 00	Not Eligible - 00	Absent - 01
Blandford, Carrasco, Chávez, Garcia, Rivera, D. Sierra, Thum, Vacas, Valle, Venegas,	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	B. Sierra

ITEM 15: Motion / Discussion / Vote to approve a Letter/Resolution/Community Impact Statement to support **Council File 25-0316** New Los Angeles County Department / Regional Homelessness Response System / Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority / City Homelessness Contracts. **1st**: Monica Vacas, **2nd**: Yudicela Carrasco. Roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with 10 votes in favor and 1 absent.

Yes-10	No - 00	Recused - 00	Abstained - 00	Not Eligible - 00	Absent - 01
Blandford, Carrasco, Chávez, Garcia, Rivera, D. Sierra, Thum, Vacas, Valle, Venegas,	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	B. Sierra

ITEM 16: Motion / Discussion / Vote to approve a Letter/Resolution/Community Impact Statement to support **Council File 25-0316** New Los Angeles County Department / Regional Homelessness Response System / Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority / City Homelessness Contracts
Norma O. Chavez moved to table the item due to lack of time and Cindy Valle seconded. No objections

ITEM 17: Motion / Discussion / Vote to approve a Letter/Resolution/Community Impact Statement to all elected officials to **oppose California Senate Bill 79** relative to the impact of City of Los Angeles neighborhoods in the vicinity of rail stations and multi-family residential developments. (Chávez)
Norma O. Chavez moved to table the item due to lack of time and Cindy Valle seconded. No objections

ITEM 18: Motion / Discussion / Vote to approve a Letter/Resolution/Community Impact Statement to all elected officials to **oppose California Senate Bill 607** relative to (Chávez)
Norma O. Chavez moved to table the item due to lack of time and Cindy Valle seconded. No objections

ITEM 19: Motion / Discussion / Vote to approve a Letter/Resolution/Community Impact Statement to **oppose California Assembly Bill 1333** relative to public safety (Chávez)
Norma O. Chavez moved to table the item due to lack of time and Cindy Valle seconded. No objections

ITEM 20: Report by the **2024-2025** Committee Chairs and Community Liaisons:

A. Standing Committees

1. Outreach/Community Affairs – Douglas Sierra
2. Finance and Budget – Cindy I. Valle – Continue to work on the 2025-2026 Admin Packet and working closely with the Executive Committee to reduce expenses
3. Beautification – Cindy I. Valle –
 - We had a great clean-up event on March 16. We want to thank all those who supported us: The Foothill Division Cadets led by Sergeant Ojeda; SLO Perez and SLO Herrera for keeping us safe; Rosalío García for providing the morning snacks; EC Electric and Caterers for lunch; Northeast Graffiti Busters for delivering the tools on a Sunday; the Climate Corps Initiative: The Blandford Family; Hope the Mission; CD6 staff (Nayda, Rebecca, and Chris), Betsaira from the Mayor’s office and her guest;
 - The next Beautification meeting is on Friday, April 18
 - Coordinating with Council District 2 our next cleanup

- Partnering with Assembly member Celeste Rodriguez for a clean-up
 - Join us for our first Sun Valley Earth Day on April 13 beginning with a cleanup at 9:00 am followed with lots of workshops and resources at 11:00 am
- 4. Planning and Land Use (PLUM) – Norma O. Chávez**
- Our monthly meeting is back to Thursday, April 24 at 6:30 pm at our office
 - Public Hearing on April 8 at 9:30 am regarding the Self-Service Car Wash to be located at 8431 N Sunland Blvd. The agenda with zoom info will be available at planning4la.org/hearings 72 hours prior to the meeting.
 - Public Hearing on April 22 at 10:30 am regarding an apartment complex with three buildings, a total of 17 units with attached garage, and 33 parking spaces to be located at 8032 N Fair Ave (11146-11148 Lorne St). The agenda with zoom info will be available at planning4la.org/hearings 72 hours prior to the mtg
 - La Raza's 10-foot wall and zero landscaping was approved with conditions and among those are two SVANC requested: trees and parking designated for employees' vehicles and no food trucks
- 5. Public Safety/Emergency Preparedness – Eddie Venegas**
- We had a good turnout at our March meeting. We had a presentation from the LAPD Domestic Abuse Response Team. We were able to provide some donations of clothes and toys donated by SVANC Board members and a CD6 staff member.
 - This month, we will have a presentation on Opioids Overdose Prevention and the use of Narcan
 - For the May meeting, we will have a presentation by Dante Cornejo from MySafeLA regarding Home Hardening and Home Fire Insurance
 - President Norma Chávez and I are working on putting together the CERT class we have been wanting to provide for our community
 - The committee and president Norma Chávez are already working on organizing our second annual National Night Out
- B. Ad Hoc Committees:**
1. Environmental and CHSR – Wendy Thum – no update
 2. Homelessness – Monica Vacas
 - Monica Vacas stated that she and Wendy Thum would be meeting April 17th, 2025.
 3. Bylaws – Norma O. Chávez – The committee is pending review and update of the Standing Rules.
 4. Elections – Norma O. Chávez
 - SVANC was unable to trigger elections for the third season in a row. We have been provided the list of five certified candidates who will be affirmed. Congratulations to those Board members who got certified: Rosalío García, Cindy Valle, and Monica Vacas.
 - Congratulations to the two new candidates who were certified and will be affirmed as soon as the process becomes available: William Leiva (Residential seat) and Alison Patch (Residential seat)
- C. City-wide community liaisons:**
1. LANCC – Norma O. Chávez – unable to attend but brought a CIS from agenda
 2. VANC – Ben Blandford – Attended and brought recommendations for CISs
 3. NCEPA – Cindy I. Valle, Eddie Venegas – no update
 4. PLANCHECKNC – Norma O. Chávez – Next meeting is on April 12
 5. NCBA – Cindy I. Valle, Rosalío García
 6. C-PAB – Norma O. Chávez, Rosalío García –

- Community Police Academy graduation is on April 10 at 6:00 pm. Congratulations to our Board members who will be graduating: Ben Blandford, Rosalío García, and Anthony Rivera.
- The Community-Police Advisory Board meeting will be on April 30. The locations is to be determined.

7. Homelessness Liaison – Monica Vacas – no update

8. NCSA – Cindy Valle – no update

9. LADWP-NC MOU – Eddie Venegas – no update

If anyone from the public wishes to join a committee, please email
info@svanc.com

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

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

ITEM 23: Adjournment @ 8:45 pm; 1st Cindy Valle, 2nd Rosalio Garcia. All in favor

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PUBLIC ACCESS OF RECORDS – In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the board in advance of a meeting may be viewed in the window of our OFFICE 8720 Sunland Blvd, Sun Valley, CA 91352 and on our website: www.SVANC.com or at the scheduled meeting.

Translation Services - To ensure availability of Services or to request at least 3 business days prior to this council by contacting secretary@SVANC.COM

PLEASE VISIT THE SUN VALLEY AREA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL WEBSITE

WWW.SVANC.COM