

VAN NUYS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETING
June 8, 2016

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Steve Friedmann
Howard Benjamin
Stacey Rains
Veronica Marin
Josef Lazarovitz
Jason Ackerman
Paul Anand
John Camera
Quirino de la Cuesta
John Hendry
Jeffrey Lynn
Jacob Lynn
Jerry Martin
Penny Meyer
Kathleen Padden
Jeremy Pessoa
Austin Noll

ABSENT MEMBERS:

George Thomas
Maria Skelton

The meeting was called to order at the top of the hour. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The flag salute followed, led by John Camera. **ROLL CALL:** The roll was taken and a quorum achieved with 17 members present.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Public comment was made by the following individuals: Miriam Fogber, Donna Pearman, Jeanette Hopp, Beverly, Candido, and Wayne from Encino. Miriam spoke on Agenda Item K, Wayne spoke on Agenda Items Q and S, and Donna spoke on Agenda Items J, K, N, and Q. Candido said that he would like to know the costs associated with naming streets in Van Nuys. Jeanette said she thinks someone aside from LAPD should share the responsibility on taking the homeless off the street. Beverly responded to Candido and Steve Friedmann, saying that she and her son cleaned up the area between Vesper and the 711 and that they found 17 homeless tents on Aetna. Beverly says she also plans on contacting Nury Martinez's office about there not being any trash cans on the bike path.

Representatives of Public Officials:

-Dana, from LA Valley College spoke on how they are now providing free job training academies to the unemployed and that veterans are excelling in these academies. She also shared how the bio-manufacturing academy has seen 100% employment following completion/

-Van Nuys Field Deputy Guillermo Marquez presented certificates to council members and spoke on the forthcoming Delano Park Community Clean-Up. Guillermo also announced that Parks will be offering free lunches to children ages 1-18, as part of the Summer Food Service Program.

-David Gonzalez announced that they are establishing a public forum as they search for a new superintendent and he asked the council to vote “yes” to a grant that’s coming to vote.

Government Relations Committee: The report is that they went over standing rules in their last meeting and that they are seeking to consolidate bylaws.

Parks & Recreation Committee: John Camera announced that Delano Park will hold a summer party for the children of the community.

Planning & Land Use Committee: Quirino de la Cuesta announced that City Planning Commission is moving forward with The Second Dwelling Unit Measure and that he wants to issue a Community Impact Statement (CIS).

TREASURER’S REPORT: Stacey advised the council that our account were never frozen. Stacey further advised that the council hold a special meeting before June 17th to discuss the annual budget. Stacey stressed that the lead time for funding requests is a minimum of 2 weeks and that council members should avoid board reimbursements whenever possible. Guillermo Marquez offered to share and alternate months when we can use their office to print our Council Agendas. Stacey further explained that NPGs are accessible online; however, instructions must be followed and the applications must be presented in council meetings.

5a: The Council discussed the topic of how Metro is considering the enhancement of two transit stations at the Van Nuys and Sepulveda boulevards, respectively. John Hendry agreed to draft a letter to Senator Hertzberg and will forward it over to Jeffrey Lynn.

6a: The Council took a vote to amend the language of the proposed VNNC standing rules Board Vacancies Amendment. After approving the amendment of the language, the council took a vote on the proposal itself. The item passed unanimously with 16 votes.

6b: The item was tabled for another time.

6c: The Council took a vote to approve the Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) for the month of December 2015. The item passed unanimously with 17 votes.

6d: The Council took a vote to approve the Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) for the month of January 2016. The item passed unanimously with 17 votes.

6e: The Council took a vote to approve the Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) for the month of February 2016. The item passed unanimously with 17 votes.

6f: The Council took a vote to approve the Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) for the month of March 2016. The item passed unanimously with 17 votes.

6g: The Council took a vote to approve the Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) for the month of April 2016. The item passed unanimously with 17 votes.

6h: The Council took a vote to approve the Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) for the month of May 2016. The item passed by 16 votes, with one abstention.

6i: The Council took a vote to support a condition use permit to allow an accessory to existing auto uses and to a new proposed C2 zone, adjacent to a R zone. The council voted on the proposed zone change and the item passed unanimously with 16 votes.

6j: The item was tabled for another time presumably next month.

6k: The Council took a vote to extend the life of the Legislative Advisory Committee (LIC) to January 30, 2017. The item passed unanimously with 16 votes.

6l: The Council took a vote to amend the language of Item L. The revision called for a motion to amend the current budget (\$10,000)—that was at the time being allotted to community impact and improvement—and have the remaining funds reallocated to Operations and Neighborhood Purpose Grants (NPGs), \$5,000 to each respectively. The item passed unanimously with 17 votes.

6m: The Council took a vote to approve an donation of \$3,200 to California Safe Schools so the organization can take students of Van Nuys Title 1 Schools can take field trips to national parks, that they otherwise wouldn't be able to visit. The item passed unanimously with 16 votes.

6n: The item was tabled.

6o: The item was dropped altogether.

6p: The item was tabled until further notice.

6q: The item was dropped as Penny Meyer declined the offer of recognition.

6r: The item was tabled.

6s: The Council took a vote to purchase 3 laptops and 3 copies of MS Office (no to exceed \$4,000) to be used by both current and future VVNC Presidents, Vice Presidents, Secretaries, and Treasurers. The item passed by 15 votes, with one abstention.

6t: The Council announced two (2) open seats on the Board for non-profit representatives. The Council resolved to hold an election once candidates have been approved in a procedural fashion by the entire VVNC Board.

6u: The Council took a vote on the five representatives authorized by the VNC to both prepare and submit Community Impact Statements (CIS). The five proposed representatives were (1) the VVNC President, (2) the VVNC Vice President, (3) the VVNC Secretary, (4) the VVNC Treasurer, and (5) Quirino de la Cuesta. The item passed unanimously with 16 votes.

6v: The item was tabled to go back to the committee for the subsequent meeting.

6w: The item was tabled to go back to the committee for the subsequent meeting.

6x: The Council took a vote to require all Committee Chairs to hold monthly meetings with their respective Committees and to have reports rendered monthly by the Committee Chairs at the subsequent meeting. The item passed by 7 votes, with 1 opposed and 6 abstentions.

6y: The item was tabled.

Public Comment: Public comment was made by the following individuals: Miriam Fogber, John Camera, Candido, Glenn Bailey from the Valley Alliance of NCs and the Congress of Neighborhoods, Doris Volper from the California Worker Advocates, and Wayne from Encino.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 10:00pm.

Jeremy Pessoa, Secretary