

OCTOBER , 2014 MINUTES  
VNNC GENERAL MEETING  
6262 VAN NUYS BL

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER—7 pm. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. QUORUM CALL. PRESENT (15)—PRESIDENT THOMAS (chair), VP BENJAMIN, SECRETARY HENDRY, TREASURER (J) HOPP, Havard, Meyer, Lazarovitz, Martin, Skelton, Camera, Waleko, Anand, Padden, Lynn, Luna, Raynes. LATE (1)—de la Cuesta. EXCUSED (1)—Arzola. QUORUM—PROCEED w/VNNC AGENDA.

PRESIDENT’S COMMENTS—VNNC to co-sponsor Sept 15 CITY COUNCIL ETHICS Committee on “Election Reform” at VN CITY HALL. Topics as “unified elections” to be discussed.

PUBLIC COMMENT—Marez on St Elisabeth’s Food Bank and honors President Thomas. Kat White (fmr VNNC Treasurer) on failure to resolve the “2012 VNNC purchasing mess” w/fmr members, Lilian de Guterrez on METRO’s Nov 12 rollout of “Van Nuys Bl transit planning” (light rail?), Sonia Aguilar and Lisa Sherman on a new “outreach”, Amy Herbert, Adelia Fuentes on pro-active on prostitution (johns and johns’ school, taking cars etc

SPECIAL GUEST—LA CITY CONTROLLER RON GALPERIN—Galperin is elected, signs all checks, does audits of depts., oversees street condition “grading”, vendors, payrolls. Through his “CHECKBOOK LA” you can see breakdowns of all items bought by CITY—as 52,000 rats for zoo, 30,000 mops, etc.

NEW BUSINESS—FUNDING VOTES FIRST—TO PRESERVE QUORUM

FUNDING FOR “STRENGTH UNITED”—DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OUTREACH FROM CSUN’s EISNER SCHOOL—NTE \$1000.—Ann Kunkel presents—a “one stop shop” at Oxnard/Cedros. MOTION TO VOTE—THOMAS/BENJAMIN. VOTE—16 AYE—DO PASS.

SAND BAGS TO HELP ANCHOR ‘VNNC COMMUNITY OUTREACH TENT’—NTE \$250. Benjamin presents—tent won’t stand up w/o sand bags. Four bags x \$55. “VNNC outreach tent” all ready to go—by Oct 28 “health fair”. MOTION TO VOTE—THOMAS/BENJAMIN. VOTE—16 AYE—PASS.

CIS FOR 7056 LENNOX—Part of CHURCH ON WAY’s consolidation of CITY-zoned parking lots as to sell off surplus lots. MOTION TO VOTE—THOMAS/BENJAMIN. VOTE—14 AYE—PASS.

CIS TO SUPPORT COUNCILMAN KREKORIAN’s “50-50 SIDEWALK REPAIR FINANCING PLAN”—Councilman wants 50-50 split between CITY and property owner for sidewalk repair. VNNC members are SO OPPOSED they wish to deny Krekorian’s CIS request and have VNNC write a NEGATIVE CIS IN OPPOSITION TO THE KREKORIAN PLAN. SUBSTITUTE MOTION TO DO NEGATIVE CIS TO KREKORIAN’s PROPOSAL. MOTION TO VOTE—THOMAS/BENJAMIN. VOTE—16 AYE—UNANIMOUS. NEGATIVE CIS IN OPPOSITION TO KREKORIAN’s 50-50 PLAN TO BE WRITTEN.

CIS IN SUPPORT OF CITY COUNCIL TO DO BAN ON FRACKING (chemical stimulation of old oil wells). TABLED TO ALLOW MORE PARTICIPANTS.

CIS FOR DESIGN REVIEW BOARD FOR VAN NUYS. Presented by de la Cuesta. Kelly Tyler of VN Library could do “panels”. MOTION TO VOTE—THOMAS/BENJAMIN. VOTE—16 AYE—PASS.

VNNC TO CO-SPONSOR CITY ETHICS COMMISSION’s “ELECTION SEMINAR” to UNIFY ALL FED, STATE, CITY ELECTIONS. MEETING TO BE HELD OCTOBER 15—6-30 pm, VN CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS. M MOTION TO CO-SPONSOR—THOMAS/BENJAMIN. VOTE—16 AYE. PASS.

7057-7061 FIRMAMENT (s of Sherman Way)—APPROVAL TO INCREASE DENSITY (per developer). Neighbors are vehemently opposed. Discussion. MOTION TO VOTE—THOMAS/BENJAMIN. VOTE—15 NO—NO SUPPORT FOR INCREASED DENSITY.

REQUEST FROM NEIGHBORHOOD—CEDROS s/OXNARD FOR TWO HOUR PARKING OR PARKING DISTRICT. Valeriano Mendez, resident, presents. “Cornerstone”, a mental health clinic and businesses ruin parking for residents. Discussion. Mendez asked to poll neighborhood—see what Councilman LaBonge might suggest. REFERRED TO PLUM COMMITTEE FOR FURTHER WORK.

CIS ON FINDINGS FROM VNNC’S SEX TRAFFICKING SUMMIT—LAZAROVITZ PRESENTS per his PUB SAFETY COMM. Such ideas as “johns’ school”, impound of cars, increased fines all to be circulated to CITY HALL, STATE CAPITOL for further legislative action. MOTION TO VOTE—THOMAS/BENJAMIN. VOTE—16 AYE—PASS.

VNNC TO WORK TO TEAR DOWN PERGOLA (btwn LIBRARY, LAPD) AND REPLACE IT w/KID FRIENDLY JUNGLE GYM. A legacy idea from President Thomas and Supervisor Yaroslavsky’s staff. MOTION TO VOTE—THOMAS/BENJAMIN. VOTE—14 AYE—2 ABSTAIN. MOTION CARRIED.

CHALLENGE TO MR LUNA AS “RESIDENT AT LARGE”—Ms. Scherzer challenges. Questions about VNNC’s power to substitute “willing candidate” to seats, if no qualifying candidate available. ITEM SENT TO DONE FOR CLARIFICATION. Again, question of VNNC’s Bylaws being official—suggestions that Anand’s GOVT AFFAIRS COMM approve the “2012 VNNC Bylaws”—and send them to DONE for reconciliation.

VNNC CLEANUP OF VN BL MEDIAN IN FRONT OF NEW STARBUCKS. Discuss—put over.

VNNC MISSING ITEMS—INVENTORY—RETURN OF ITEMS. VP Benjamin presents. List of ‘lost’ items—members reminded where “credited” w/having certain items—discussion. A continuing issue w/DONE.

VNNC TO SUGGEST BAIRD HOUSE (Hamlin/Vesper) AS DESIGN FOR ‘VN HISTORICAL DISTRICT SIGN” Baird House is VN’s “best old house”—worthy of CITY’s “VN Historical District” sign—an “iconographic VN image” like VN City Hall. Perhaps “signage” or “tent pole” w/image could be offered to VN homes built before 1930. MOTION TO VOTE—THOMAS/BENJAMIN. VOTE—12 AYE—PASS.

VNNC TO HELP ERRECT DON DRYSDALE SIGN AT VAN NUYS HIGH. Drysdale is VN High’s only “Baseball Hall of Fame” player—field at VN High honors him. It is now baseball’s “post season”—this could be a hook—for VN, other Valley communities to do the same. MOTION TO VOTE—THOMAS/BENJAMIN. VOTE—11 AYE—1 ABSTAIN. PASS.

SECRETARY’S REPORT—SEPTEMBER MINUTES—Distributed. MOTION TO VOTE—THOMAS/BENJAMIN. VOTE 11 AYE—1 ABSTAIN. APPROVED.

TREASURER’S REPORT—RECONCILIATION PROVIDED. MOTION TO ACCEPT—THOMAS/ BENJAMIN. VOTE—11 AYE—1 ABSTAIN. RECONCILIATION ACCEPTED.

ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted by John Hendry, VNNC Secretary, November 24, 2014