

VAN NUYS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
JULY 12, 2017

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jeffrey Lynn, President
Stacey Rains, Treasurer
Jeanette Hopp, Secretary
Michael Browning
John Camera
John Hendry
Richard Hopp
Veronica Marin (8:50)
Jerry Martin
Marlin Medrano
Penny Meyer
Austin Noll
Kathleen Padden
Marcela Rodriguez (8:50)
Maia Skelton
George Thomas

ABSENT MEMBERS:

Jason Ackermann
Josef Lazarovitz
Steve Friedmann
Quirino de la Cuesta

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 7:15 p.m. 1) **ROLL:** The roll was taken by our secretary, and a quorum was achieved with 14 members present. Two additional members arrived at 8:50 p.m.

2) **REPORTS FROM PUBLIC OFFICIALS:** Brian Gavidia, Representative for the mayor spoke. He advised that Los Angeles will be one of the places hosting the Olympics. We don't know when just yet; 2024 or 2028. Brian is working with thirty interns showing them how the city operates and positions for which they may apply.

The mayor was re-elected and is currently out-of-town. Brian's number is (213) 713-0960.

Nigel Sanchez, Field Representative for Tony Cardenas spoke next. Nigel brought with him Tera Logan, who is an intern for Congressman Cardenas. The congressman sponsored HR200 to provide funds for victims of human trafficking.

The Chief spoke about some incidents that took place on the 4th of July, which lead to a report by our SLO. Officer Erica Kirk stated units were dispatched three days before and three days following July 4th in an effort to deter illegal fireworks. The problem is that if the officers do not witness the fireworks being discharged and by whom they are powerless to affect any arrests or write any citations. She personally reached out to some of the individuals who complained to see if they would sign a form stating they saw who shot off the fireworks. A few citations were issued. Tamar Galatzan agreed to issue nuisance citations.

3) **PUBLIC COMMENT:** A gentleman named Gaston Montero advised the council he had been struck by a vehicle and was dead for ten minutes. He was comatose for four days. He spoke about trying to have a Los Angeles Folk Art Festival that he wants us to sponsor.

4) **PRESENTATION BY ALISA ORDUNA, MAYOR'S HOMELESS POLICY DIRECTOR:** She told us that each department had to adopt a homeless strategy. They launched the HOPE team. Tents have to come down and not block the sidewalks. They engaged 2,000 people. They put forth Measure HHH, which ultimately passed to build 10,000 units over the next ten years. They have 9,000 units at this time. They want them at a reduced cost and reduced red tape. They are building the structures and the county is providing the resources, counselling, etc. They placed 14,000 people last year, but the homeless count went up 20%. They have three priorities; 1) First and foremost, health and safety, 2) how do we house people and last 3) prevention. Howard applauded her, but stated Pacoima, Panorama City, Van Nuys, North Hollywood seem to be over-burdened with mental health centers and homelessness. Sherman Oaks, Tarzana, Encino should share this burden. The homeless are being steered to Van Nuys by the Orange Line. LAPD will be taking over the Orange line and the Metro lines to assist with the problem.

5) **CONSENT CALENDAR:** a) Tabled with a motion made by Stacey and seconded by Mr. Lynn and carried with a vote of 12 ayes, 1 nay 1 abstention. Items b, c, d, e were bundled. These are items to purchase nameplates, name tags and business cards for the new members with NTE amounts for each item. Veronica proposed an amendment to add she and I to the names of individuals requiring these items, as neither she nor I received them, as well. She moved the amendment and I seconded the amendment. The vote was 12 ayes, 2 nays and 1 abstention. Motion carried with 13 ayes.

Ankur Patel, representative for new LAUSD Board member Scott Schmerelson introduced himself and told us about his new boss.

Regular meeting suspended to begin the Special meeting. We skipped Items 1 through 3 and went directly to the 4th item.

4) **Discussion and possible action to support the Immigration Workshop in August with the mayor, congressman, state senator and assemblyman.** George advised the individual with whom he has been working moved to D.C. He wants to postpone this workshop until December. Moved by George to postpone until December, seconded by Stacey and carried by a vote of 14 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions. The Special Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

We resumed our regular meeting at 7:41 p.m.

Mr. Marez requested copies of any emails of anyone who has had physical contact with or emails with contractors, members or developers, including lunches.

6) **Report from Department of Neighborhood Empowerment pertaining to progress and continued discussion with possible action of VNNC Work Plan:** Semee spoke about on-going training she has been giving during our meetings. She also advised we have done well and completed a portion of the training.

7) **Discussion and possible action to appoint Veronica Marin interim Treasurer.** A motion was made by George to make Veronica Marin interim Treasurer, seconded by Stacey and carried with a vote of 16 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

8) **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO DESIGNATE A CARD HOLDER:** A motion was made by George to designate Jeanette Hopp as the cardholder, seconded by Veronica and carried with a vote of 13 ayes, 3 nays, 1 abstention for a total of 14 ayes.

9) **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REFERENCE VNNC COMMITTEES; CREATION, DUTIES, AUTHORIZATION AND MEMBERSHIP:** It was noted that an agenda must be posted 72 hours prior to a meeting. Semee said a picture may be taken and it sent to the early notification system at NCsupport@lacity.org. There was discussion about standing committees; how would we set-up the committees and who would be on those committees. We have elected members to the committees and the chair in the past. Do we want to elect the committee members to the committee and allow the committee to elect the chair? It is recommended that we have no more than five members on a committee. We can agendize their agenda to permit having a joint committee meeting with the general board meeting.

10) **Discussion and possible action to approve minutes from June 14, 2017 VNNC Board meeting.** A motion to adopt the minutes was made by Mr. Lynn, seconded by Mr. Browning and carried with a vote of 12 ayes, 2 nays and 0 abstentions.

11) **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE MER FROM JUNE, 2017.** This item was tabled.

12) **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING VNNC FISCAL YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN FOR 2017-2018.** This item was tabled.

13) **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018 BUDGET.** This item was tabled.

14) **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING VNNC FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018 OUTREACH SURVEY.** This item was tabled.

15) **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING VNNC FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018 SELF ASSESSMENT.** This item was tabled.

16) **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO REIMBURSE RICHARD HOPP FOR VNNC P.O. BOX RENTAL FEES NTE \$ 200.** Mr. Hopp asked that this item be tabled, as the receipt has not been turned into the office at this time. Item was tabled.

17) **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE PAYMENT FOR THE VNNC STORAGE UNIT FOR THE NEXT SIX MONTHS IN ADVANCE.** A motion was made by George and seconded by Mr. Browning

to approve payment in advance for three months. The motion was carried with a vote of 12 ayes, 0 nays and 1 abstention.

18) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO SECURE LOCATION AND COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH A RETREAT FOR THE VNNC BOARD NTE \$ 500. IN ORDER THAT WE MAY WORK ON THE ITEMS THAT HAVE BEEN TABLED DURING THIS MEETING. George moved that we adopt the language in Item 18 and he will get price quotes and email board members, seconded by Howard and carried with a vote of 12 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

19) UPDATE FROM THE OUTREACH COMMITTEE: This item was tabled as the chair left earlier.

20) BOARD COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: George presented Mr. Benjamin Howard with a plaque for his extensive and excellent public service on our council and on behalf of our community. Mr. Browning believes that the volunteer board should have been followed-up from the city to support their efforts.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanette Hopp, Secretary

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