

**VAN NUYS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETING**  
**November 8, 2017**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Jeffrey Lynn, President  
Jason Ackerman, Vice-President  
Jeanette Hopp, Secretary  
Veronica Marin, Treasurer  
Josef Lazarovitz, Parliamentarian  
Howard Benjamin  
Michael Browning  
John Camera  
Steve Friedmann  
John Hendry  
Richard Hopp  
Jerry Martin  
Penny Meyer  
Kathleen Padden  
Stacey Rains  
Marcela Rodriguez  
Maria Skelton  
George Thomas

**ABSENT MEMBERS:**

Marlin Medrano

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. **ROLL CALL:** The roll was taken by our secretary, who advised we have a quorum with 18 members present.

**2) REPORTS FROM PUBLIC OFFICIALS:** Daniel Hernandez spoke about the Halloween event at Delano Park. He said there were about 400 kids in attendance, who received candy and toys. Some of the candy and toys were provided by Mr. Marez. He thanked us for our support. **Van Nuys PD:** Captain Brockway and SLO Tony Cabunoc came to address us. Captain Brockway advised their HOPE team has been working with the homeless. They still have a large population, but they are connecting some with their families. They have a new homeless coordinator. There has been some concern about cars and commercial burglaries, which typically occur between 2:00 and 5:00 a.m. They smash and grab. If it is a business, they break the glass by throwing a brick. They run in and grab whatever and run right out. We have had some success in catching these criminals. They have 17 added units from Metro, who will be in the area on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Todd Chamberlain was the Homeless Coordinator, who just retired. The new coordinator is a gentleman with whom the captain went to school. Officer Cabunoc spoke about the Task Force they are bringing in concerning commercial burglaries. **3) EXECUTIVE OFFICERS' REPORTS:** Mr. Lynn said this is his last meeting. Mr. Ackerman said he had the honor of serving as our vice-president. **Secretary's report:** I advised the minutes had been disseminated and requested a motion to adopt the minutes as submitted. A motion was made by Mr. Ackerman,

seconded by Mr. Benjamin to adopt the minutes. The motion passed with a vote of 17 ayes, 1 nay and 0 abstentions. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Ms. Marin gave her report. Beginning balance in September was \$ 49,744.25. A total of \$ 152.41 was spent. Remaining balance is \$ 49,591.84 with an outstanding balance of \$ 8,966.13 leaving a net available amount of \$ 40,625.71. A motion to adopt the Treasurer's report was made by Mr. Lynn, seconded by Mr. Ackerman and carried with a vote of 16 ayes, 1 nay and 0 abstentions. There was a comment made by Mr. Richard Hopp in relation to the check that had been issued to him in reimbursement for payment of our post office box. He stated he had been asked to return the check. **LIC COMMITTEE REPORT:** Mr. Hopp advised that a new city ordinance was just passed that states a vehicle parked that is higher than 7' and is longer than 20' is no longer permitted to be parked on the street. CD6 Councilmember Martinez had said homeless were allowed to park their motorhomes on the street, but some are not in compliance with the new ordinance.

Ms. Cardera from the Red Cross addressed us regarding their "Home Fire Campaign". They are giving away and installing free smoke alarms. Theirs is a five-year campaign and they are in year three. However, in order to qualify you must register on line by midnight tonight.

**4) GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT:** Mr. Marez again spoke about Mr. Friedmann. It is his belief he should be removed or should step down. He berated others for defending Mr. Friedmann. Miriam spoke about the light rail project that is being proposed. She feels it will not be utilized and the bus will take much longer so that Donna will be late for work. She also commented on the loss of video conferencing.

Ms. Marin spoke as a community member advising she is a member of the PTA at Van Nuys Elementary. She said many of the teachers do not have parking spaces and are forced to pay for parking at \$ 5 a pop. She asked could we get parking for them by the Bernardi Senior Center between Syimar and Tyrone?

Wayne spoke using profane, vitriolic language concerning his take on a board member.

**5) OLD BUSINESS:** None at this time.

**6) CONSENT CALENDAR:** Mr. Lynn read the statement advising all items on the calendar are non-funding issues and were approved unanimously by their respective committees. **A)** Mr. Lynn read this item reference a letter the Budget and Finance Committee wanted to send to Ms. Martinez concerning utilizing parking fees from meters, public parking to be used toward expenditures in making streetscape improvements; such as tree planting, adding benches, sidewalk repairs and clean-ups in Van Nuys. **B)** Mr. Ackerman read item about **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** recommendation to reinstate the LIC Committee, in an advisory capacity to research, develop and report about legislative and special projects. A sunset clause was added to set as of June 30, 2018, unless renewed. **6)B ii** It was agreed that we would elect a new Website Committee to meet within 2 weeks to develop and report on electronic communications and content. A sunset clause was added to set June 30, 2018, unless renewed. A motion was made by Mr. Thomas, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Lynn to adopt both proposals, which passed unanimously.

**7) NEW BUSINESS:** The Budget and Finance Committee referred an action to approve the purchase with the credit card to pay for our storage facility. The suggested amount was NTE \$ 200.00, but it is recurring. Additionally, the recommendation was to remove Mr. Benjamin from the account and add

Ms. Marin and Mrs. Hopp. A motion made by Mr. Lynn, seconded by Mr. Ackerman was carried with a unanimous vote of 17 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

**7) B OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT:** Maria spoke about Angel Tree, who gives gifts to children of parents or guardians who are incarcerated. We are planning to do a co-sponsored event with Ms. Martinez, and Assembly member Nazarian to be held in January. A motion was made by Mr. Lynn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Benjamin to provide an amount NTE \$ 1,000.00 for pens with our logo. Motion carried with a vote of 17 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions. **Thanksgiving event** we will be getting the food from Sizzler at a great rate already prepared to be provided to 200 people, and this is the co-sponsored event with Assemblyman Nazarian and Ms. Martinez. There is a budget of \$ 2,000.00 that was approved.

**7) C PLUM COMMITTEE** the report is tabled with a motion made by Mr. Ackerman, seconded by Ms. Marin and carried with a vote of 16 ayes, 1 nay and 0 abstentions.

**7) Di** concerning Outreach efforts to attract candidates to fill the youth seat was adopted unanimously.

**7) D ii** Mr. Hopp said if the persons providing the paperwork to be digitized do not do so by 12/1/17 he will not be handling this issue. A motion to place the deadline had been made by Mr. Ackerman and seconded by Mr. Lynn was carried with a vote of 15 ayes, 1 nay and 1 abstention. **7) D iii** Mr. Thomas spoke about the reason to have a retreat and that it would be held at the Hampton Inn who would host the event. He wants to invite officials from government to speak to us about how we should handle our business. There was a proposal to have the retreat the first Saturday in December with a cost NTE \$ 1,200.00. A motion was made by Mr. Lynn, seconded by Mr. Benjamin to hold the retreat on January 27<sup>th</sup>. The motion carried with a vote of 16 ayes, 1 abstention and 0 nays. **7) D V** We began to update the Bylaws, but because there are 26 pages and in the interest of holding the Executive Committee election, we moved that the LIC Committee meet within two weeks to vet changes to the Bylaws. Everything that comes out of that meeting will go to city hall and we will have a chance to review the recommendations and vote on this item next month. **7) D VI** There was an agreement that we elect new officers this month. Mr. George Thomas was nominated as President. As no one else cared to run, Mr. Lynn moved that Mr. Thomas be elected by affirmation. Ms. Hopp nominated Mr. Benjamin for Vice-President, seconded by Mr. Lynn and carried unanimously. Ms. Hopp was nominated by Mr. Lynn for Secretary. His motion was seconded by Mr. Ackerman and carried unanimously. Mr. Lynn moved that Ms. Marin be nominated for Treasurer. His motion was seconded by Mr. Ackerman and carried unanimously.

**8)** Nothing was pulled from the Consent Calendar.

**9)** There was no report on the status of EE for our council.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** The Lutheran Church on Sherman Way will be having a garage sale on November 11<sup>th</sup>.

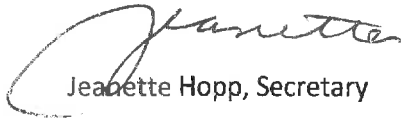
Mr. Ackerman advised there will be a meeting at Van Nuys City Hall on November 15<sup>th</sup> regarding zoning changes around the Orange line. The meeting will be at 6:00 p.m. It was recommended that we have a

sign-up sheet for Outreach events, because the same people always attend these events and we need more participation.

Following discussion, it was agreed that we have a potluck dinner for our holiday celebration at our next general council meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jeannette".

Jeannette Hopp, Secretary

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