



VNNC Parks and Recreation/Open Spaces Committee Meeting

Minutes

Thursday, May 31, 2018 6:00pm-7:30pm

Van Nuys Recreation Center - 14301 Vanowen St, Van Nuys, CA 91405



1. 6:03PM - Call to order
2. Roll Call (VNNC Members: Michael Browning, Penny Meyer, Kathy Schreiner; Council woman Nury Martinez office staffer, Yvonne Perez, Maria Skelton arrived later - 12 total)
3. Approval April Meeting Minutes (Moved by Kathy and second by Penny, unanimous)
4. Chair Remarks – Michael Browning (chair) congratulated the group on the progress of the Van Nuys Recreation Center renovation and urged members to attend the Measure A meeting at the park on June 30th.
5. Election of a committee secretary (roles: take meeting minutes, sending out agendas, supporting the committee as needed and agreed. Jason Sherman was unanimously elected at the secretary.

Old Business

6. **Discussion and updates regarding the Van Nuys Recreation Center:** Van Nuys Recreation Center Park staffer, Rita, attended the meeting and welcomed the committee to the park. She talked about the needs of the park and updated the members on the renovations: new water fountain, two turf soccer fields, one baseball diamond, futsal mini soccer field, one tennis court to be removed, 2 tennis courts will remain.

Council woman Martinez's office:

- ✓ No new updates but there will be a park dedication after the park renovations are completed
 - ✓ There is an issue with locking the park gate and her office is investigating
- Installation of no gambling signs, Installation of additional no Loitering/Lodging signs
 - We must insure that the all park gates are locked and secured each night
 - Homeless advocates should be asked to assist the homeless at the park
 - Although cameras would help with park security like in MacArthur Park, it was stated that cameras are illegal in City Parks
 - There is graffiti on the park benches that should be removed daily or weekly, staff mentioned that they report the graffiti problems but have to wait until the department responds
 - A safety plan needs to be developed for the park, with the assistance of Park Rangers, LAPD and neighborhood watch
 - Penny mentioned that Keys Motors want to donate in Van Nuys and she is interested in developing an Adopt-a-Park program for VNRC

7. **Discussion to review the application for committee membership:** one new member was unanimously elected to the committee: **Hovsep J. Hajibekyan**.
8. **Discussion and possible action to establish the Van Nuys Yards of the Year Honors. Discussion plans to partner with the VNNC Beautification and Outreach Committees (use Park Committee budget to purchase VNNC yard signs)** No funding until after July 1, 2018 for any purchases or supplies or anything because the VNNC is currently in LA City Exhaustive Efforts, which prevents the council from disbursing funds.
9. **Discussion on developing a Van Nuys Parks and Recreation/Open Spaces 2018-2019 policy platform (What is our shared VISION for parks, recreation and open spaces in Van Nuys?)** Everyone was urged to attend the Measure A meeting on June 30th
10. **Any Updates from Van Nuys Community Collaborator: Kathy Schreiner**, Kathu urged members to attend the meeting on the 30th and to invite others. She mentioned that First 5 LA has staff dedicated to park issues and that she will contact them for support for the committee.
11. Public Comment
12. Announcements

VNNC Parks and Recreation/Open Spaces Committee Meets on the last Thursday of the Month – 6:00PM-7:30PM – Van Nuys Recreation Center (new location) 14301 Vanowen St, Van Nuys, CA 91405

2018 meeting dates: June 28th, July 26th, No meeting in August, September 27th, October 24th, November and December meetings will be determined based on Holiday schedules

7:30 Adjourned