

**VAN NUYS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETING**  
October 11, 2017

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

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

**ABSENT MEMERS:**

The meeting was called o order at &:20 p.m. The president read the disclaimer: ROLL CALL: It was determined that we have a quorum with 20 members present. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The pledge was cited following roll call.

**2) REPORTS FROM PUBLIC OFFICIALS:** Captain Brockway from Van Nuys Police Department introduced himself. He is the new commander in Van Nuys. He filled us in on his background.

Angie from Adrin Nazarian's office advised that on next Saturday there will be a self-defense class for women. The Red Cross is here in the community and wants to work with us. There will be an anti-bullying informational meeting in January on the 20<sup>th</sup> from noon until 2:00 p.m. This event will be held in the Van Nuys State Office Building at 6150 Van Nuys Boulevard, Van Nuys. There will be a free flu clinic at the Bernardi Center.

Mr. Sanchez from Congressman Cardenas' office came to advise us that the congressman is sponsoring an immigration event on November 4<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. at the North Hollywood Methodist Church.

Daniel from Delano Park advised they are having exercise classes for adults, which is free.

**BUDGET ADVOCATE REPORT:** The representative has not been to our meeting in two months. Freddie Ames came instead to advise the budget advocates set a date for next year's Congress of Neighborhoods event, September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2018. He also asked what items we would like to see in the white paper. He suggested we email him. Mr. Ames stated the individuals who registered early for the Congress of Neighborhoods would be given a pin for having done so.

**3) OFFICERS REPORTS:** Secretary' report C3: Jeanette provided a copy of the minutes to each board member and had some for the public. A motion was made by Mr. Lynn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Ackerman to adopt the minutes. The vote was unanimous with 20 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

**3d) TREASURER'S REPORT:** Veronica asked if this portion of her report be tabled. An invoice was lost making approval of the MER not possible.

Leah Garland spoke about her grassroots group "Standing Together Against Neighborhood Dealing." She wants a buffer of 2,500 feet from sensitive places; schools, hospitals, churches, etc. Miriam spoke about seceding from Los Angeles. Maggie from Dignity Health came to speak to us about a workshop they are presenting in April of 2018 at the facility on Oxnard Boulevard to assist victims of physical assault and domestic violence. They see more than 200 cases per month.

**3) E Plum Committee** will report later.

3) ii: **OUTREACH COMMITTEE:** Report later.

3) i: **BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE:** Report will be made later.

**4) GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:** None at this time.

**5) Discussion on Go Daddy SSL (Secure Sockets Layer)** creates a secure, encrypted site for communications between [www.VNNC.org](http://www.VNNC.org) and an internet browser. This was supposed to have been taken care of in last year's budget, but was not paid. It needs to be voted upon and paid with the card. The vote was nearly unanimous, 19 ayes, 1 nay and 0 abstentions following a motion made by Mr. Lynn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Ackerman.

**6) CONSENT CALENDAR:** Budget and Finance: Council will send a letter of request to the Office of Nury Martinez Council District 6 representative to change the fees collected from parking meters, parking structures near the government buildings to be used towards expenditures in making streetscape improvements such as tree planting, adding benches, sidewalk repairs and clean-ups.

6 i: It was moved by Mr. Browning, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ms. Meyer to adopt the Consent Calendar. A vote of 19 ayes, 1 nay and 0 abstentions carried the motion.

**OUTREACH COMMITTEE:** Discussion and possible action to participate in the Van Nuys Neighborhood School Health Fair. It was agreed we would participate, as in the past four years. We already have bags with a little bit of swag. Other event information under Budget and Finance report below.

It was agreed that we spend NTE \$ 1,000.00 with the card for swag replenishment. A motion was made by Mr. Lynn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Benjamin and carried with a vote of 19 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

7) i **Discussion concerning possible assignment of Youth seat. There is a young lady that Maria stated** has been attending the Outreach Committee meetings, taking notes and attending our meetings for the past few months. However, she won't be 16 until after our November meeting. Therefore, we will assign the seat in December.

7) ii The VNNC to discuss and take possible action concerning the EAST Valley Rapid Transit Corridor to meet the deadline of October 30, 2017. The VNNC discussed the light rail proposal in the East Valley Rapid Transit Corridor. Mr. Ackerman explained the proposals and stated Alternative #4 is the best proposal. If we propose the light rail, a MSF (Maintenance and Storage Facility) must be built. The VNNC strongly suggests that Metro pursue MSF Option B south of the Metrolink track on the west side of Van Nuys Boulevard or Option C north of the Metrolink tracks on the west side of Van Nuys Boulevard. Either would benefit Metro as it would be in the center of the route for Phase 1, which minimizes the distance cars would have to travel to the southern or northern terminus. Further, the VNNC recommends that Metro consider acquiring 7600 Tyrone Avenue from LADWP, which is and has been vacant for years and would be a far more suitable third option than MSF Option A.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Art stated this would be the correct length of cars and long enough platforms. Mr. David Gonzalez with VICA supports Alternative 4. Kathy Schreiner disagrees with Alternative 4, but agrees with the need for a MSF. She disagrees because Metro has 1.3 billion, but Option 4 will cost 2.7 billion. A substitute teacher from the area agrees with Option 4. His only concern is it does not address handicapped people. Brad Balduff of Aetna Industrial Commercial Group said another big issue is the zoning. He wants to keep our industrial community intact. Mr. Roberts, an electrical contractor, likes Option A. He believes it is wrong because it puts Van Nuys on the wrong side of Sherman Oaks, or the wrong side of the tracks. Marilyn Balduff spoke about Option A. She thanked us for supporting them. This project will affect 200 businesses adversely if the wrong Option is chosen by Metro. The area is currently being revitalized. There is a low crime rate. It is home to a diversity of businesses. Lisa Dryer represents Aetna Industrial Group in that area and 1,000 workers. The business owners would have to vacate. Gary said it would back-up traffic. There were several other comments from Mr. Bart Reed, Mr. Michael Roberts, and Mr. Frederick Bertz who all agreed with our position. Mr. Tony Wilkinson agreed and said if an EIR was not performed one must be done prior to anything moving forward.

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS ON THIS ITEM:** Howard said there would be a serious erosion of our tax base if businesses are forced to move from Van Nuys. There would be graffiti all over the building. A mural might help that issue. Richard said without all of the documenting information available, we should not make a decision. Penny advised there is no more individual land for the businesses. Therefore, they would move out of the area. Steve agrees with supporting the option that does not displace our businesses and workers. John Hendry believes while they are building, the traffic will be a

nightmare and severely back-up. It was moved by Mr. Ackerman and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Lazarovitz to approve the letter with the following amendments: replace dozens of businesses with 200. Under C make sure the Sepulveda corridor is the same corridor and technology as the eastside corridor. The vote on the amended motion was 19 ayes, 1 nay and 0 abstentions. The vote for the new motion made by Mr. Ackerman, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Lynn was 19 ayes, 0 nays and 1 abstention.

7) iii Discussion of Bylaws tabled, as there has been no meeting.

**b) BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT:** Veronica thanked me for getting our money back for the banners. It was money that was to have been spent last year, but was delayed in contracts.

b) ii Mr. David Brown advised the Valley Disaster Fair was a success. More than 7,500 food tickets were dispersed. This is record attendance and approximately 2,000 more attendees than that of last year. We had 116 people from our neighborhood pre-register to attend. His own neighborhood only had 97. It was moved by Mr. Lynn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Lazarovitz to correct the dollar figure on the agenda that had too many zeros. The vote to amend the amount was 15 ayes, 2 nays and 2 abstentions. The motion carried. The motion to adopt the amendment and approve payment in the amount of \$2,500.00 was made by Mr. Lynn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Ackerman and carried with a vote of 11 ayes, 6 nays and 1 abstention. This event form was in progress, but could not be paid prior to the event due to our having been in EE and our funds having been frozen.

C i: The vote on the Anti-bullying event was amended NTE \$500.00. Amendment was moved by Mr. Lynn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Ackerman. The money is for food and the event is moved to January, 2018. The motion to amend passed with a vote of 18 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions. The vote on the Anti-Bullying motion as amended made by Mr. Hopp, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. George Thomas passed with a vote of 18 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

C ii: The VNNC is co-sponsoring a Halloween event with Delano Park. The amount was amended NTE \$250.00 for candy/food. Motion to amend was made by Veronica Marin, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Hopp and carried with a vote of 16 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions. The motion to approve the amended motion was made by Mr. Lynn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Ackerman to approve Halloween event with Delano Park NTE \$250.00 with 16 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

C iii: A motion to provide \$2,000.00 for a co-sponsored event at Delano Park for Thanksgiving was amended to state for food by Mr. Ackerman, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Benjamin and carried with a vote of 16 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions. The vote to approve the amended motion was made by Mr. Ackerman, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Benjamin and carried with a vote of 16 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

**C IV:** It was moved by Mr. Ackerman, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Lynn to adopt the motion for the Holiday event co-hosted with Delano Park NTE \$2,500.00 for toys, make-up, sweaters, computer peripherals. The vote was 17 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions carrying the motion.

CV: Mr. Lynn moved that we amend the motion, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Ackerman for the Mayor's Youth Council to state for food. The vote was 17 ayes 0 nays and 0 abstentions. A motion to amend \$70.00 per month

for food for the Mayor's Youth Council meeting was made by Mr. Ackerman, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Benjamin and passed with a vote of 17 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

A motion to reimburse Maria in the amount of \$ 11.88 for copies of agendas made by Mr. Lynn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Ackerman was carried with a vote of 18 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

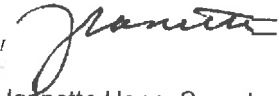
**9) EXHAUSTIVE EFFORTS UPDATE:** Semee commended us on a great meeting. The Executive Officer elections will be next month. They will have a draft of our Bylaws next month.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Quirino de la Cuesta stated there has been some difficulty for some time and we are all aware of who put us into EE; it was Candido Marez. Quirino further stated he has been very busy with council work and has neglected his own projects. He is hereby resigning so that he may catch up on his own work. He thanked us for the opportunity of having worked with us and said he learned a lot. Perhaps sometime in the future he will return, but for now he must resign. His announcement was bittersweet, as we all like him very much and he was an integral part of our council and in helping us achieve our goals.

Quirino spoke a long time about Maria and how hard she works. He stated he really respects her.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeanette Hopp, Secretary

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