

**VAN NUYS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
GENERAL BOARD MEETING
October 10, 2018**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

George Thomas, President
Jeanette Hopp, Secretary
Veronica Marin, Treasurer
Joset Lazarovitz, Parliamentarian
Jason Ackerman
Michael Browning
John Camera
Glenn Epstein
John Hendry
Jaklen Keshishyan
Jeffrey Lynn
Jerry Martin
Penny Meyer
Kathleen Padden
Kathy Schreiner
Maria Skelton (late)

ABSENT MEMBERS:

Marlin Medrano
Steve Friedmann
Ashley Neyra

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The flag salute was led by our president. **ROLL CALL:** Our secretary called the roll and we have a quorum. **NOTE: A letter was disseminated and we were advised that Mr. Richard Hopp has been removed by DONE from the council. Further, he may not be appointed either to the council or any committees at any time.**

2) OFFICER'S REPORTS:

A. President's report:

- i. Discussion and possible action to create an Outreach Plan for events sponsored or co-sponsored by the VNNC.
- ii. Discussion and possible action to have the PLUM Committee create an overall Principles guideline that incorporates the goals, strategies, action steps and detailed tasks for planning that can be used by the VNNC.
- iii. Discussion and possible action to fund banner maintenance and possible additional banners NTE \$8,000. Referred back to Budget and Finance.
- iv. Discussion and possible action to create the process to approve and post photos on

the VNNC website and/or social media sites. Referred to Outreach.

- " Discussion and possible action to purchase a popcorn machine and supplies for Outreach events NTE \$ 600. Referred back to Budget and Finance.
- A) i. Mr. Thomas said he is well-versed in writing plans and he will write the plan for the Outreach Committee to be used for sponsored and co-sponsored events that will include the 30-day event form.
- A) ii. Since Mr. Friedmann is absent, it was determined that this item would be referred to his committee.
- A) iii. Ms. Hopp advised she was asked to call the company handling banners for the city. Once advised that AAA Flag and Banner handles such projects, she contacted them. They need to send a team from Los Angeles to see how many banners we have and their condition before they can give us an estimate for the required work. The office in Sherman Oaks had closed. There is a charge for the preliminary review, but they claim to be unable to advise how much until they determine what is required
- A) iv. Following discussion it was agreed that photos to be posted could be sent to our vendor for posting with one or two lines about the event at which they were taken.
- A) v. Following discussion, it was agreed that this item should be referred to Ms. Martinez' office to see if she will maintain the unit for us. Mr. Thomas will speak with her.

2) B Vice-President's Report:

Ms. Medrano is out sick, therefore any report on the Ad Hoc Committee must be postponed. Mr. Thomas moved that Ms. Medrano be appointed chair, 2nd by Ms. Marin and carried unanimously. Also, Mr. Epstein and Ms. Schreiner were appointed to the committee.

C Treasurer's Report: Discussion and possible action to discuss the e-mail from the city clerk concerning missing documents and signatures dated August 29, 2018.

- i. November MER has a Sizzler transaction that needed another BAC and a more descriptive receipt. An itemized receipt and a BAC were provided when it was first uploaded. They were again providea.
- ii. December 2017 Vatican Banquet hall transaction needs an itemized receipt.
- iii. March BAC is said to have not been signed. A signed BAC was uploaded at the time an unsigned BAC was sent. It had been signed by the 2nd signer and not the Treasurer initially. Missing signature added and BAC resent.

- iv. April through June BAC's are missing or were not uploaded. Ms. Marin signed and uploaded the MER's and all required information BAC's and receipts.
- v. MER for July had yet to be uploaded. Ms. Marin reported she completed it and it is to be uploaded with all appropriate paperwork.

O. Treasurer's Report: MER's for July, August and September. Ms. Marin advised the MER's have been generated and all necessary paperwork is included. However, when she tried to upload the information, it was discovered that as soon as she uploaded a BAC, it was eradicated by the next one she uploaded. This is apparently a flaw in their system of which they are aware and are trying to resolve. A motion was made by Mr. Thomas, 2nd by Mr. Lazarovitz to approve the older MER's, etc. through June. Motion carried unanimously. The MER's for July through September were postponed as no copies were made available.

E. Secretary's Report: Ms. Hopp advised the minutes were posted and she also provided copies for anyone who does not have access to a computer. Ms. Hopp moved that the minutes for the month of September be approved and asked for a 2nd. Her motion was 2nd by Mr. Lazarovitz and carried unanimously.

3) REPORTS FROM PUBLIC OFFICIALS: Ms. Cara Onofre works with LAUSD Board Member Kelly Gonez and they serve just over 70,000 students in the northeast portion of the valley. She was asked about parking spaces for Van Nuys Elementary by Ms. Marin. We had arranged to get 20 parking spaces and were supposed to get an additional 20 more. She knew the school had no parking spaces for teachers and staff, but she was unaware of our arrangement. LAUSD was voted No. 2 in the nation for magnet schools. Dr. Tannburger retired. A new Communications Magnet opened at Van Nuys High.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Ms. Laura Velte wanted to speak about the president's report. She says we have ourselves (XXX) backwards. She is a member of the Sherman Oaks NC and according to her we have gotten ourselves into trouble because we have done closed-door deals, referring to Mr. Friedmann. Accusations can be made easily, but where is the **proof?** None offered, none given.

Mr. Browning wanted city officials to know that we need more parks and places for residents to exercise.

Return to **PUBLIC OFFICIALS REPORT: City Officials** wanted us to know they have civic center permits available to the public at low cost. We cannot use these specific permits for the purpose of making money. (We do not raise money.)

DEPARTMENT OF CITY PLANNING: The Department of City Planning is undergoing a comprehensive update. When completed their efforts will represent an updated 20-year citywide plan. The city wants to update all 35 community plans in six years, in addition to updating land use maps, this effort will apply updated zoning throughout the community plan area. This is a three-phase project; updating the general plan, the community plans and updated zoning. The City Planning Department will be holding Open House events in order to seek community participation. During the three-year, three phase plan

they will be conducting research and data collection, while identifying issues and opportunities. Once they have identified change and preservation areas, they will share this information with the communities involved. They will draft a plan of their vision, goals and policies. During the second year they will refine the plan and apply recode zones. They will be getting an EIR during this time frame. They will present the draft plan, proposed zones and other plan components. Then they will release the draft EIR in year three. Lastly, they will put the plan through the adoptive phases. **NOTE:** These plans were last updated prior to the Orange line's existence.

ASSEMBLYMAN NAZARIAN'S OFFICE: His representative spoke about the Arts Festival that is to be held in late October. AB 2853 passed September 27th, which has to do with returning prescription drug overcharges to the patient, rather than to insurance companies.

SENATOR HERTZBERG: He updated us on legislation, including some with reference to homelessness and other issues. He said we have a 4 billion bill on the ballot with regard to homelessness and affordable housing and services. There is another bill for the mentally ill. They have a bridge gap bill totaling \$12 billion. Health care, housing and homelessness are big issues for the incoming governor. The homeless have pets. Many facilities do not permit pets. The senator wants the centers to allow 25% of the residents to have pets. He believes we are going to face another big earthquake in the near future. He is authoring grants for 600,000 homeowners in the event of such a disaster. He will disburse the money to people to bolt their homes. We have to be much more diligent. They have been working on water issues. **Question:** Mr. Camera asked isn't more of our water used by farmers? The senator said agriculture does use a portion of our water, but the problem is our perpetual drought conditions, so little rain, too little run-off from the snow pack, causing us to import two-thirds of our water. His goal is to make us less dependent and more self-sustainable. He is thinking about Measure W, but is not sure if he wants to support it because the water **MUST** be cleaned-up. It is contaminated. We export rice to Japan. Mr. Ackerman asked about I.D.'s for homeless. They cannot get services without an I.D. He suggested a street team to speak to the homeless and to get them an I.D. Mr. Browning asked about human trafficking and the fact that the LAPD has some temporary funds with which to fight this problem. The senator said he would add this item to his list. He likes the idea of I.D.'s for homeless. Mr. Marez asked, why can't we utilize land owned by the DWP that is not being used for the purpose of housing homeless and their pets? Also, why not create a safety zone where trailers and motorhomes can be parked undisturbed? This is an idea worth researching.

Senator Hertzberg handed out certificates of achievement to each board member who was present to thank us for working so hard in our community and achieving No. 1 in CIS filing with the city in an effort to improve our neighborhood.

NURY MARTINEZ' OFFICE: Yvonne from our City Council Office came to update us. She spoke about an upcoming health fair at an elementary school in Van Nuys with whom we have partnered for the past 6 or more years. This event which provides free vaccinations, books, tote bags and goodies from us is scheduled for October 27th from 9:00 a.m. until noon.

CONSENT CALENDAR: Items C, D, E and G were pulled from the calendar. A motion was made by

Mr. Thomas, 2nd by Ms. Marin to adopt the remainder of the Consent Calendar. Motion carried with 16 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

Item SC: Discussion and possible action for the VNNC to take the lead and establish an all-encompassing "Operational Handbook" for local governments specific to the Neighborhood Council System . The VNNC to reach out to all current leadership throughout the 99 NC's for stories, articles, guidance and ditties for the handbook. Following discussion, it was agreed that we forward this item to the SCOPE Committee. A motion was made by Mr. Thomas, 2nd by Ms. Hopp to forward to the SCOPE Committee. The motion carried with 14 ayes, 3 nays and 0 abstentions.

Item SD: Discussion and possible action concerning proposed new construction of a Retail Center located at 5805 Sepulveda Blvd., Van Nuys (CPC-2018-3091). Applicant is Brad Rosenheim of Rosenheim & Associates, Inc. This item was postponed until next month with a motion made by Mr. Epstein, 2nd by Kathy Schreiner. The motion passed unanimously .

Item SE: Discussion and possible action regarding proposed new construction consisting of 11 units located at 14822 W. Delano Street, Van Nuys (DIR-2018-8460). Applicant is Hamid Dehghan of HRD Architects, Inc. Mr. Ackerman asked about the under-parking problem. If you have 7 parking spaces for 11 units it is not enough. This is a transit-oriented area, one mile from the Orange line from Kester and Van Nuys Blvd. Some of the routes will be removed and some are not running on the weekend. Mr. Hendry said this is a dangerous area. The Housing Department designated this affordable housing. Mr. ...homas moved that this item be approved, 2nd by Ms. Keshi shyan. The motion failed as we need more information. Vote was 6 ayes, 8 nays and 1 abstention.

Item SF: Discussion and possible action regarding proposed new construction of 6 single family dwellings located at 6830 Hazeltine Avenue, Van Nuys. Applicant is Alon Gamilel of All California Construction. They wanted to have a private facility for 18 -year olds to seniors who are disabled. This is an 18-bed unit. They serve a lot of fire fighters, persons injured in motorcycle accidents, etc. They have a few facilities already and have never had a complaint from the community. Their facility is quiet. There is no problem with parking, as 80% of the residents do not have anyone visiting. She lives next door and has room for 13 cars. They charge 10% of what regular health facilities charge. A motion was made by Mr. Thomas to approve this item, 2nd by Mr. Ackerman and carried with a vote of 15 ayes, 0 nays, and 1 abstention.

6) FUNDING ITEMS: 6a) Discussion and possible action to approve the purchase of Halloween candy for our table at Delano Recreation Center on October 31, 2018 NTE \$ 300. A motion was made by Mr. Thomas to approve this purchase, 2nd by Mr. Ackerman and carried unanimously with a vote of 15 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

6b) Discussion and possible action to approve an Anti-bullying townhall meeting at Delano Recreation Center in October (date to be changed) with funding for refreshments and materials NTE \$ 1000. A motion to approve this event was made by Mr. Thomas, 2nd by Mr. Ackerman and carried with a vote of 12 ayes, 2 nays and 1 abstention.

6c) Discussion and possible action to approve honoring our military with lunch at Sizzler at 12:00 noon on November 2nd NTE \$ \$ 1250 plus tax or \$ 1500. A motion was made by Mr. Thomas, 2nd by Ms. Marin and carried with a vote of 11 ayes, 2 nays and 2 abstentions.

6d) Discussion and possible action to approve a Thanksgiving event to be held at Van Nuys Recreation Center on November 17th at 3:00 p.m. NTE \$ 1800 plus tax or \$ 2000. A motion to approve this event was made by Mr. Thomas, 2nd by Ms. Marin and carried with a vote of 15 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

6e) Discussion and possible action to approve a Holiday event at Delano Recreation Center on December 19th NTE \$ 2250 plus tax or a total of \$ 2499. A motion to approve this item was made by Mr. Thomas, 2nd by Ms. Marin and carried with a vote of 15 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

6f) Discussion and possible action to approve the VNNC obtaining branded items for use as outreach materials; such as, but not limited to, tote bags, pens, banners, fliers. Etc. This item was referred back to Budget and Finance for more detailed information.

6g) Discussion and possible action to approve the VNNC providing refreshments at the Mayor's Youth Council meetings as we have done for the past three years on a monthly basis NTE \$ 90 each month. A motion was made by Mr. Thomas, 2nd by Mr. Ackerman and carried unanimously with a vote of 15 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

7) Committee Reports: This item was postponed for review and update at the Retreat at the end of this month.

8) GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: One gentleman spoke about the city-owned bank that is in the very early planning stages. He also urged "yes" on Measure B. We are no longer using the Community Redevelopment Agency, he believes the current method is better.

It is time that we speak up and demand video conferencing in the valley so that valley residents can see the city council meetings in that manner. It is very difficult for the disabled and elderly to trek downtown.

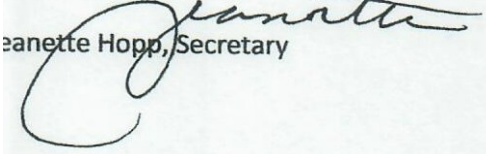
John Pelzer from Sherman Oaks is here today in support of Proposition 10.

Mr. Taylor asked what is the process for joining the board? Mr. Thomas asked him to send an e-mail and he will provide him with the information he is requesting.

Mr. Browning asked why the name change for the Sherman Oaks Park was kicked back to committee.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Janette Hopp, Secretary