

Board Members

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Council President & Honorary Mayor

Marlin Medrano
Vice President

Veronica Marin	Maria Skelton
Jeanette Hopp	Brian Edleman
Josef Lazarovitz	Steve Friedman
Vacant Seat #1	Kathleen Padden
John Hendry	John Camera
Penny Meyer	Ashley Neyra
Michael Browning	Vacant Seat #2
Jeffrey Lynn	Jerry Martin
Jason Ackerman	Kathy Schreiner
Glenn Epstein	

Van Nuys Neighborhood Council



General Council Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, March 13th, 2019
7:00pm – 10:00pm

Marvin Braude Constituent Service
Center – Council Chambers
6262 Van Nuys Blvd.
Van Nuys, CA 91401



Van Nuys Neighborhood
Council

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PUBLIC INPUT AT NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETINGS – The public is requested to fill out a “Speaker Card” to address the Board on any agenda item before the Board takes an action on an item. Comments from the public on agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the agenda that are within the Board’s jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period. Please note that under the Brown Act, the Board is prevented from acting on a matter that you bring to its attention during the General Public Comment period; however, the issue raised by a member of the public may become the subject of a future Board meeting. Public comment is limited to 2 minute per speaker, per item, with a maximum total of 10 minutes per speaker, unless adjusted by the Council President and/or facilitator.

1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America and Roll Call
2. Officer’s Reports, Elected Officials Reports, Committee Chair Reports & Other Reports
 - a. President’s Report – Update on our ongoing relationships with other levels of government.
 - b. Vice President’s Report – The Vice President will update the council on the status of the committees, and how often they meet. The VP will also address the direction of the committee agendas, and what we are accomplishing.
 - c. Secretary’s Report (Motion to approve February Minutes)
 - i. Discussion and possible action to approve all pending other General Board Meeting Minutes.
 - d. Treasurer’s Report (Motion to approve December, January & February’s Monthly Expenditure Reports)
 - i. Discussion and possible action to approve the other MER’s for all pending months.
 - e. The VNNC is officially requesting a report from Council District 6 and the top Planning Deputy/Chief of Staff on the ongoing retail situation in Van Nuys. The VNNC would like to know the status of the retail leases along Van Nuys Blvd.,

especially at the Government Center.

3. Discussion of current items for action at the March VNNC General Board Meeting.
 - a. The VNNC to formally elect a new interim Parliamentarian. The VNNC to also grant a formal Leave of Absence (LOA) for current Parliamentarian Josef Lazarovitz. The VNNC also let it be known that the Parliamentarian is also a voting member of the Executive Committee and will be required to attend the Executive Committee meetings.
 - b. The VNNC to formally elect an Education Committee Chairperson. The VNNC to consider combining the Education Committee and the Historical Preservation Committee. All Councilmembers will and shall be considered for this Chairpersonship.
 - c. Jessica Romo is applying with Strength United for an intersection mural as part of the LADOT People Street Program. People Street is an application-based program that transforms public streets into places that people can meet and gather. Official report from Strength United on pending LADOT People Street Cycle Application for an intersection mural at Vesper & Calvert.
 - d. The VNNC to support the passage of Liam's Law. The VNNC to lobby and write a letter in support of Assembly Bill 1713, and to publicly thank Assemblywoman Burke for introducing this legislation. The VNNC to officially go on record in support of AB1713, and to do whatever we can to make this bill become law. Moreover, the VNNC to file a Community Impact Statement (CIS) & Call To Action (CTA) requesting the State Legislature expedite this through committee and onto the floor for a final vote. (Council File #16-0855) (http://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2016/16-0855_mot_08-03-2016.pdf) ([California Assembly Bill 1713](#))
 - e. The VNNC to support making Election Day in November a National Holiday. Moreover, the VNNC to file a Community Impact Statement (CIS) & Call To Action (CTA) requesting Indigenous People's Day be moved to Election Day, as to not incur any additional cost of having a new National Holiday. (Council File #18-0002-s47) (http://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2018/18-0002-s47_reso_04-18-2018.pdf)
 - f. The VNNC to request the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors have one meeting every other month at Van Nuys City Hall. The VNNC to support bringing county government to the San Fernando Valley so our constituents can have better access to their elected officials. The VNNC to work with Herb Wesson's office to schedule use of the Van Nuys City Hall for the Board of Supervisors. Ideally, the BOS meeting would be the first Friday of every other month, just like the Los Angeles City Council does it in successive concurrent alternating months. Moreover, the VNNC to file a Community Impact Statement (CIS) & Call To Action (CTA) requesting this action be supported by LACC and other governments. (Council File #19-0002-s14) (http://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2019/19-0002-s14_reso_01-23-2019.pdf)
 - g. The VNNC to consider any and all applications to fill the two remaining vacant seats. (Sandy Logan & Ashley Martinez have their application in, and will be considered) (<https://vnnnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/Neighborhood-Council-Candidate-Filing-Form-Van-Nuys-NC.pdf>)
 - h. The VNNC to support bringing back video conferencing to the Van Nuys City Hall. The VNNC to seek funds to help bring back this special public comment tool, so

our constituents can communicate with their elected officials. Additionally, the VNNC to support using video conferencing to help out the LAPD and LAFD. Moreover, the VNNC to file a Community Impact Statement (CIS) & Call To Action (CTA) requesting video conferencing is fully funded and implemented by 2020. (Council File #09-0350) (http://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2009/09-0350_mot_2-13-09.pdf)

- i. The VNNC to request all pending reimbursements be submitted to the clerk's office for payment. (George Thomas for printing in December & February, Jeanette Hopp for printing etc) All reimbursements will be submitted to Terrence Gomes to help out and assist with red tape and in navigating the powers that be at City Hall.
 - j. Additional discussions and actions from the Budget & Finance Committee.
 1. To discuss and move to approve payment for the Moore Business Invoice. The VNNC to request Wendy Moore make sure the website of the VNNC is 508 ADA Compliant. NTE 1300.00
 2. To discuss and move to approve the inventory 2019
 3. To discuss and move to action to sponsor the 11th annual Senior Symposium & Job Fair on Saturday, May 18th, 2019 at ONEgeneration Senior Enrichment Center NTE: \$750.00
 - k. The VNNC to make sure every government building at the Civic Center is ADA compliant. Additionally, the VNNC to seek to help all the levels of government at the Civic Center that are not ADA compliant. The VNNC to consult with and contact the General Services Department (GSD) to verify all city buildings in Van Nuys are ADA compliant.
 - l. The VNNC to vote on and establish an official Grain & Cereal for Van Nuys. (Barley is in contention, but all grains and cereals will be considered).
4. Consent Calendar (All items on the Consent Calendar have passed through TWO Brown Act Certified Official Meetings of the VNNC Committees and are eligible for the fast track for consideration and passage.)
- a. VNNC to purchase all of the councilmember branded items for every councilmember: name badge, name plate, shirts, jackets, business cards, and everything that members received prior to 2018. NTE \$2500
 - b. The VNNC to begin reaching out to our community partners in Van Nuys. In doing so, the VNNC to create the new "Non-profit Organization of The Month" series. Each month, a new non-profit will be invited to come and introduce themselves before the council. In doing so, the VNNC can evaluate their paperwork and what they are doing for Van Nuys, and ultimately decide to assist and fund them.
 - c. The VNNC to consider and submit a Community Impact Statement on the following: (Council File 17-1315) Whereas, the Dwarf Planet known as Sedna is the second furthest known dwarf planet in the solar system and the second most red object in the Solar System after Mars. Whereas, the solar orbit of Sedna is calculated at around 11,400 years. with an aphelion [furthest point of its orbit] estimated at 937 AU [1AU = the distance between Earth and the Sun, 937 AU is roughly 31 times the distance of Neptune] and a perihelion [closest point in its orbit] at about 76 AU, which it will reach in the year 2070. Whereas, the last time Sedna was this close, humans had just domesticated their first fruit tree (the Fig Tree), this opportunity is not just a once in a life time event but a once in a geological epoch, which might very well be the only foreseeable window in the existence of our species where we have the resources and knowledge to reach this object for study. Whereas, reaching Sedna at its perihelion in the year 2070

would take the fastest current spacecraft an estimated 25 years and there are no known plans at NASA or any other private or public space agency to meet this deadline to do so; Whereas the Van Nuys Neighborhood Council has no doubt that given access to robust STEAM education and funding that our Children and their children will be fully capable of building and tracking a spacecraft that will reach Sedna by 2070. Therefore Be It So Resolved that the Van Nuys Neighborhood Council calls on the United States Congress to invest heavily in science technology engineering arts and Mathematics education that will prepare the current Generation of students in Van Nuys to become the next generation of celestial explorers who will design, build and maintain the spacecraft(s) and software that will allow us to reach Sedna. Be It Further Resolved, The Van Nuys Neighborhood Council employs the United States Congress to divert funds from non-scientific elements of the defense budget to resort NASA spending to no less than 1% of GDP by 2025. (http://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2017/17-1315_mot_11-21-2017.pdf)

- d. The VNNC to make it their aim and goal to make sure everyone in our council district has health care. Moreover, the VNNC to work with Valley College, California State university Northridge (CSUN) and Pierce College to establish the first “Teacher’s Hospital” in the San Fernando Valley. This teaching hospital will educate the generations to come that choose the medical profession as their vocation. This will also ensure the people of Van Nuys and the San Fernando Valley have access to quality low cost private health care.
- e. The VNNC to support the government program known as ARM, or the Asteroid Realignment Mission. Moreover, the VNNC to request additional funding from the Federal Government for this program, as well as STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) education in all of our schools in Van Nuys. Additionally, the VNNC to host an interplanetary defense initiative town hall with the Jet Propulsion Lab (JPL) and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). The VNNC to also reach out to our local San Fernando Valley Congressman Brad Sherman for assistance, as Mr. Sherman is a senior ranking member of the Science Committee in the House of Representatives. Moreover, the VNNC to file a Community Impact Statement (CIS) & Call To Action (CTA) requesting NASA and all our governments dedicated to space clean up the Santa Susanna Field Lab and make it the mission to fund and address the need to support the government program known as ARM. (Council File #13-0002-s6) (http://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2013/13-0002-S6_reso_12-14-12.pdf)
- f. The VNNC to highlight the history of Van Nuys by making Amsterdam in The Netherlands our official “Sister City.” In accordance with policy and procedure, the VNNC to work with City Hall staff to streamline the timeframe of action and expediate paperwork. The VNNC recognizes that Isaac Newton Van Nuys came from a little Dutch town called Van Nuis, and this was a northernly suburb of Amsterdam. Additionally, the VNNC to plan a trip and send a delegation to Amsterdam to meet the Mayor and Councilmembers of that fine city. Moreover, the VNNC to file a Community Impact Statement (CIS) & Call To Action (CTA) requesting this action take place, and Amsterdam is the official sister city of Van Nuys. (Council File #13-1707) (http://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2013/13-1707_mot_12-18-13.pdf)
- g. **Discussion and Possible Action:** Proposed CUB to allow the upgrade of an existing Type 20 “Beer & Wine Only” License to Type 21 “Beer, Wine & Spirits” for off-site consumption in conjunction with an existing 8,400 sf supermarket (Vallarta

Supermarket) with the hours of operation 7:00 am to 11:00 pm daily located at 13715 Vanowen St in Van Nuys (ZA-2018-7420). Applicant is requesting the transfer of an existing Type 21 License from a neighboring Liquor Store which ceased operations. Resulting in no net increase of licenses in the neighborhood. Applicant: Angelina Gonzales of Zevada Enterprises, Inc. Planning Dept Contact: TBD

- h. **Discussion and Possible Action:** Proposed new construction of 4-unit townhome small sub-division located at 14824 Delano Street in Van Nuys. Applicant: Gary Zaryan & Mike Zaryan. Planning Dept Contact: TBD
- i. **Discussion and Possible Action:** Presentation by Joel Horowitz (Van Nuys stakeholder) on sub-metering proposal pertaining to legislative action directed at the LADWP to allow for sub-metering of ADU's. (Accessory Dwelling Units). Water conservation and equitable distribution of cost should be a priority of the LADWP as Los Angeles promotes the construction and addition of Accessory Dwelling Units to address the housing shortage facing the City. Joel is seeking support from the VNNC and assistance in presenting his proposal to a City Councilmember (*possibly the Office of Nury Martinez*) who will help get it to committee for possible action.
- j. **CIS on Climate Emergency -- MOTION:** The Van Nuys Neighborhood Council supports CF18-0054 (<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=18-0054>) and urges the City of Los Angeles to declare a Climate Emergency which would call to accelerate its carbon-free goal from 2050 to 2025 as set out in the Climate Emergency Mobilization Department council file. (Please find the CIS attached) Action Item: *Point Person: Medrano*.
- k. **Call for the District Attorney's Office to Clear/Reschedule Records of Cannabis Charges.** The VNNC to File an (RFA) Request for Action To CMs Ryu, Martinez, Kerkorian, Supervisor Kuehl's Office and the District Attorney's Office calling on District Attorney Jackie Lacey to follow the lead of the District Attorneys of San Francisco and San Diego and have the DA's Office expunge and/or dismissal of all prior low-level marijuana-based offenses going back no less than 40 years and to review all other marijuana-related felonies to determine if they should be retroactively reduced to misdemeanors. (<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/01/31/us/california-marijuana-san-francisco.html>). The War on Drugs has disproportionately negatively impacted low income and/or communities of color like Van Nuys, and the VNNC finds the current expungement petition process to be woefully under-publicized and far too costly in terms of time and/or money in its current form and so, fails to meet the restorative justice aims of the law. The VNNC further requests a report back from the City Council and/or Supervisorial Offices listed above on behalf of the DA's Office no less than ninety (90) days from receipt of the approved version of this motion, on what steps are being taken by the DA's Office to comply with this request and what additional steps and/ or resources would be required to achieve this goal.
- l. Motion to reaffirm the approved \$1,000 budgets for each committee. In 2018 The VNNC approved a motion to appropriate \$1000 annually for each standing committee's activities. Please confirm that this is still the case and provide process details for requesting the funds. This money for the committees will only be available and eligible for Committee Chairs if they have had an official Ralph M. Brown Act certified committee meeting in the first quarter of 2019. NTE \$10,000

5. General Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items within the Board's Jurisdiction (up to two minutes per speaker)

6. Adjournment

****THE AMERICAN WITH DISABILITIES ACT** - As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and, upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services and activities. Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices and other auxiliary aids and/or services, may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting VNNC by calling: (818) 533-8662 or via email at: info@vnnc.org

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****RECONSIDERATION AND GRIEVANCE PROCESS** - For information on the VNNC's process for board action reconsideration, stakeholder grievance policy, or any other procedural matters related to this Council, please consult the VNNC Bylaws. The Bylaws are available at our Board meetings and our website <http://www.vnnc.org>

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