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## Van Nuys Neighborhood Council



## Van Nuys Neighborhood Council General Board Meeting Approved Minutes Wednesday, November 8, 2023



**Members**  
Samuel Apikyan  
Hakop 'Jack' Azatyan  
John Camera  
Josue Chavez  
Brian Edelman  
David Harari  
Ann Kalb  
Yena Kim  
David Kopelev  
Jarred Pina  
Britt Vaughan  
Cyle Zezotarski

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1. **Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance-** The meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM by President Schreiner. Roll was called by John Hendry. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Schreiner. There were nine (09) Boardmembers present. Seven (7) Boardmembers were absent. Quorum was not met. President Schreiner allowed government reports and public comment.

VNNC ITEM 1. Roll Call	
Present –09	Absent-07
Azatyan, Chavez, Edelman, Hendry, Kim, Kopelev, Nkuku, Pina, Schreiner	Apikyan, Bolla, Camera, Harari, Kalb, Vaughan, Zezotarski

### 2. Reports from Government officials:

- a. LAPD Van Nuys Division - <https://vnnc.org/resource/>
- b. LAFD Station 39
- c. Council District 2 –Arus Grigoryan [arus.grigoryan@lacity.org](mailto:arus.grigoryan@lacity.org) 818-210-1504 (cell)
- d. Council District 4 – Ryan Ahari [ryan.ahari@lacity.org](mailto:ryan.ahari@lacity.org) 213-473-7004
- e. Council District 6 – Brian Patton [brian.patton@lacity.org](mailto:brian.patton@lacity.org) Office: (818) 778-4999, Cell: (818) 270-1931
- f. Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) – Alfonso Manzo [alfonso.manzo@lacity.org](mailto:alfonso.manzo@lacity.org)
- g. Mayor's office – Michelle Vergara [michelle.vergara@lacity.org](mailto:michelle.vergara@lacity.org) (213) 400-9816
- h. Los Angeles County 3rd District (Lindsay Horvath) –
- i. Assembly District 46 (Jesse Gabriel) – TBD
- j. Senate District 20 (Caroline Menjivar) – Jasmin Hernandez [jasmin.hernandez@sen.ca.gov](mailto:jasmin.hernandez@sen.ca.gov)
- k. California Congressional District 29

**No action was taken on any item due to no quorum of the VNNC Board.**

3. **Presentation about upcoming construction of Metro Orange (G) Line Improvements** Ron Macias, Principal Community Relations Officer, Construction Relations [maciasr@metro.net](mailto:maciasr@metro.net) This project will upgrade the existing G line with grade separations on major streets, better signal priority technology, electronic bus connectivity and a four-quadrant gating system, for a faster trip.

4. **Officer Reports**

- a. President
  - i. A printed copy of VNNC agendas and linked files can be reviewed in a reference notebook that will be located at the Van Nuys Branch Library.
  - ii. 60-day comment period on Draft Vision Plan for the Sepulveda Basin has started and will end on December 18<sup>th</sup>. The 260+ page plan can be accessed from the project website: [bit.ly/sepulvedabasinvp](http://bit.ly/sepulvedabasinvp)
- b. Vice-President
- c. Secretary
- d. Treasurer
- e. Parliamentarian

5. **Discussion and possible action to vote to fill vacant Board seats.**

- a. ANNOUNCEMENT: In accordance with Section 7F of the Bylaws, the five (5) Board seats that are currently vacant have automatically become at-large seats. The 5 seats are:
  - At-large Representative (Seat 2)
  - Non-Profit Representative (Seat 2)
  - At-large Industrial Representative (Seat 2)
  - School Representative
  - Youth Representative

Section 7F reads: "Any time a designated seat remains unfilled for sixty (60) days after the vacancy is announced at a Board meeting, it shall automatically become an at- large seat until the next general election at which point it shall revert back to the original designation as defined in these Bylaws.

- b. Two residents of Van Nuys have applied for and meet the qualifications for At-Large Representative (Seat 2), as well as for other at-large vacant seats Each candidate will be asked to give a 2-minute self-introduction, followed by questions from Board members.
  - i. Cassandra Morris  
<https://vnnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/2023-10-CassandraMorris.png>
  - ii. Sohrob Tahmasebi  
<https://vnnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/2023-10-SohrobTahmasebi.png>

Consent Agenda

- a. Approve minutes from the VNNC Board meeting held on October 11, 2023.  
[https://vnnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/VNNC\\_10112023\\_GBM\\_Draft\\_Minutes\\_V2.pdf](https://vnnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/VNNC_10112023_GBM_Draft_Minutes_V2.pdf)

6. **Action items from the Budget and Finance Committee 10/30/23 meeting requiring roll call votes.**

- a. Discussion and possible action to approve the September 2023 MER (Monthly Expenditure Report)  
[https://vnnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/VNNC\\_MER\\_092023.pdf](https://vnnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/VNNC_MER_092023.pdf)

- b. Discussion and possible action to approve reimbursement to David Harari for \$120.45 for purchasing food for the October 11, 2023 General Board Meeting.  
[https://vnnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/VNNC\\_GB\\_FoodReceiptOct2023\\_DH.pdf](https://vnnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/VNNC_GB_FoodReceiptOct2023_DH.pdf)
- c. Discussion and possible action to approve a \$500 Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG) for the Valley Presbyterian Annual Toy Drive, which will take place on December 17th, 2023. NPG funds will be used to provide snacks for children and their families. (NOTE: Toys are donations provided by Valley Presbyterian employees.)  
[https://vnnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/VPH\\_NPGAPP.pdf](https://vnnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/VPH_NPGAPP.pdf)

**7. Action item from the Outreach Committee 10/25/23 meeting requiring a roll call vote.**

- a. Discussion and possible action to approve the VNNC's participation on December 15<sup>th</sup> in a holiday event with the Delano Recreation Center and expenditures not to exceed \$500 in support of the event.

**8. Action items from the 10/25/23 PLUM Committee meeting requiring roll call votes.**

- a. Discussion and possible action to approve sending a letter of support to City Planning for:
  - i. Case No. ZA-2010-2957-CU-CUB-PA2 5601 N. Van Nuys Blvd. (NW Corner of Van Nuys & Burbank) The **Applicant, Garfield Beach CVS, LLC dba: CVS Pharmacy**, was approved for the sale and dispensing of a full line of alcoholic beverages for off-site consumption in conjunction with the operation of an approximate 14,710 square foot pharmacy, along with a drive- through pick up window for pharmacy products, in the C2-1VL under Case No. ZA-2010- 2957(CUB)(CU) on **March 8, 2011**. Subsequently, the Applicant filed a Plan Approval Application, which was approved in 2016 under Case No. ZA-2010-2957(CUB)(PA1). The Applicant **now submits this current Plan Approval Application to renew its existing CUP** (Conditional Use Permit) for the continued sale and dispensing of a full line of alcoholic beverages for off-site consumption at an existing CVS Pharmacy located at 5601 N. Van Nuys Blvd. in Sherman Oaks, CA. Applicant has received a letter stating that the Van Nuys Vice Unit of the LA Police Department is not opposed to this application.

[https://vnnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/PD-ltr-of-Support\\_CVS-5483-Sherman-Oaks\\_9.25.23.pdf](https://vnnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/PD-ltr-of-Support_CVS-5483-Sherman-Oaks_9.25.23.pdf)

Digital copies of project documents can be found at:

<https://planning.lacity.org/pdiscaseinfo/caseid/MjY4MDUy0>

(In box on top right of screen, review approved documents related to past applications.

Click on "Initial Submittal Documents" to find links to documents related to current application.)

- b. Discussion and possible action to approve submission of a CIS to Council File 21-1230 regarding rezoning proposed under the City's Housing Element, with language similar to the following motion suggested by VANC, Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils:

The Housing Element and Community Plan Updates have plenty of zoning opportunities in commercial corridors, public lands and through Adaptive Reuse to meet state mandates. There is no need to rezone, through overlays or other zoning devices, R1 zones or sensitive, rent stabilized multi-family housing. The Van Nuys Neighborhood Council opposes the Housing Element's proposed rezoning and densification of R1 and multi- family neighborhoods beyond what SB9 and ADU laws allow.

Brief background: <https://vnnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/Issues-related-to-Housing-Element-Lake-Balboa-Handout-.pdf> Key Facts: The State Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) target for the periods 2021-2029 mandates that **LA must zone for 486,379 housing units**. Current zoning provides for 230,964 housing units. **Rezoning must allow for an additional 255,000 housing units by 2029**. The current Housing Element has provided for rezoning for **1,400,000 housing units – OVER 5 TIMES THE MANDATE**.

For more about the City of LA Housing Element Rezoning Program, use the following link: <https://planning.lacity.org/plans-policies/housing-element-rezoning-program#strategies>

9. **Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items** – maximum of 2 min per stakeholder (Note that topics discussed must be within the jurisdiction of the VNNC.)
10. **Discussion and possible action to approve establishment of two new VNNC Committees.**
  - a. Public Safety, Human Services, and Animal Welfare Committee. This committee will consider issues and action items that can enhance personal safety of residents, safety of neighborhoods, support for local police, support for City initiatives to help people move from living on the streets into interim housing (including Inside Safe, Circle, and Council Office activities), and support activities to improve the welfare of feral animals.
  - b. Parks, Public Spaces, and Sustainability Committee: This committee will consider issues and action items that can improve the cleanliness and visual environment in Van Nuys, encourage greater use of reporting through 311, increase open space, enhance the tree canopy, and support initiatives to preserve and increase natural resources (such as native plants, groundwater storage, etc.) and address climate change.
11. **Updates on unresolved topics**
  - a. Waiting for response from DONE and City Attorney regarding issue that led to the resignation of Studio City NC members.
  - b. The LA City Council has passed two motions related to allowing Neighborhood Councils to make a decision about whether they want to hold some meetings with Zoom participation. Awaiting guidance on next steps from DONE. May vote on this issue at the December Board meeting.
12. **Identification of topics Board members would like to discuss at a future meeting.**
13. **Adjournment Meeting ended at 8:28PM.**