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Parliamentarian

## Van Nuys Neighborhood Council



## Van Nuys Neighborhood Council General Board Meeting Approved Minutes Wednesday, September 13, 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

Van Nuys Neighborhood Council  
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1. Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance **The meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM by President Schreiner. Roll was called by John Hendry. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by John Hendry. There were eleven (11) Boardmembers present. Four (4) Boardmembers were absent. Quorum was met.**

VNNC ITEM 1. Roll Call	
Present –11	Absent-04
Azatyan, Bolla, Chavez, Edelman, Harari, Hendry, Kopelev, Nkuku, Schreiner, Vaughan, Zezotarski	Apikyan, Camera, Kalb, Kim

2. **Reports from Government officials: (2 min each)**
  - a. LAPD Van Nuys Division - <https://vnnc.org/resource/> Senior Lead Officer (SLO) Croft will be filling in for SLO Whitey. Van Nuys LAPD has been working with the Mayor's Office to implement Inside Safe on Aetna off of Van Nuys Blvd. This Sunday, there will be a 5 K run sponsored by LAPD Van Nuys Station as a fundraiser for the cadet program. Applications for the run will be accepted until Friday night.
  - b. LAFD Battalion Chief Conroy spoke about earthquake preparedness because of the recent earthquake in Morocco. Have a plan and be prepared with an emergency kit, secure your homes, and make sure that the home is bolted to the foundation. After an earthquake, listen for official announcements and be prepared for aftershocks.
  - c. Council District 2 –Cairo Rodríguez [cairo.rodriguez@lacity.org](mailto:cairo.rodriguez@lacity.org) 818-755-7676 reported that today the Council President introduced a motion for the City to reassess the Loud and Unruly Gatherings Ordinance. The City Departments are using their limited resources to try to address "party houses" and the current enforcement tools are not strong enough to make an impact. The City is considering increased penalties to address unpermitted and non-compliant short rentals. The Emergency Rental Assistance Program under the United to

House LA Measure will begin accepting applications at 8 am on September 19th. The program will assist low-income tenants who are at risk of homelessness due to unpaid rent as a result of COVID-19 or other financial hardships. The Council President allocated funds for speed humps at Van Nuys Elementary School. The speed humps were built over the summer. The Council President's goal is to slow down traffic around school. The Council President Office assisted the LAPD CPAB obtained tools for their cleanup at the Van Nuys Division Police Station. The office also provided a crew that assisted with weed and trash abatement. Cairo thanked Madam President Kathy and Boardmember Myrra for participating in the Bernardi Senior Center Block Party. and Senior Lead Officer George Lara for helping and covering for Senior Lead Officer Lin Whitey, while she's been out on personal leave.

- d. Council District 4 – Ryan Ahari [ryan.ahari@lacity.org](mailto:ryan.ahari@lacity.org) 213-473-7004 reported that their office has receive complaints about the conditions of sidewalks in the district and that people are tripping over them. Van Nuys Sherman Oaks Park has a new director. Concerts in the Park at Van Nuys Sherman Oaks Park this Sunday from 5:00PM to 7:00PM. There will be three additional dates. See the website for additional information.
  - e. Council District 6- Brian Patton [brian.patton@lacity.org](mailto:brian.patton@lacity.org) 818-270-1931 reported that the Councilwoman would like to get the plants in the medians trimmed in Van Nuys and is working to find funding for the project. Citizenship assistance is being offered for those wanting to become citizens of the United States. Rebecca, homeless director for CD6, reported that 46 homeless persons who previously lived in encampments on Aetna St. near Hazeltine were housed through Inside Safe, in cooperation with the Mayor's Office.
  - f. Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) – Alfonso Manzo [alfonso.manzo@lacity.org](mailto:alfonso.manzo@lacity.org) thanked the Boardmembers that showed up to the meet and greet at City Hall last month and that the Congress of Neighborhood is this Saturday.
  - g. Mayor's office – Michelle Vergara [michelle.vergara@lacity.org](mailto:michelle.vergara@lacity.org) (213) 400-9816- Absent.
  - h. Los Angeles County 3rd District (Lindsay Horvath) –Absent.
  - i. Assembly District 46 (Jesse Gabriel) – Alberto Vargas [alberto.vargas@asm.ca.gov](mailto:alberto.vargas@asm.ca.gov) 818-346-4521-Absent.
  - j. Senate District 20 (Caroline Menjivar) – Jasmin Hernandez [jasmin.hernandez@sen.ca.gov](mailto:jasmin.hernandez@sen.ca.gov)-Absent
  - k. California Congressional District 29- Absent
- Public comment: Lionel Marez, Mr. Hopp. Mr. Marez

3. Presentation on California's Low-Cost Auto Insurance Program (CLCA) by Arminé Sargsyan, Outreach Analyst, Community Relations and Outreach Branch, California Department of Insurance. The department is the largest consumer protection agency in California. If you need help, you can go to <https://www.insurance.ca.gov/01-consumers/> Information about the program can be found at <https://www.mylowcostauto.com/>  
Public comment: Mr. Marez

#### 4. Officer Reports

- a. President
    - i. City Council approved Council File 23-0799 (see p. 8) to explore infrastructure and safety upgrades needed to resume City Council meetings at Van Nuys City Hall.
    - ii. 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.
  - b. Vice-President-thanked Brian Patton for attending the meeting.
  - c. Secretary-Stated that he was impressed with Brian Patton.
  - d. Treasurer- no report
  - e. Parliamentarian- the committee will be working on the By-laws.
5. General Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items – maximum of 2 min per stakeholder (Note that topics discussed must be within the jurisdiction of the VNNC.)
    - a. Maria Skelton
    - b. Lionel Marez

- c. Mr. Marez
- d. Mr. Hopp
- e. Goat Puppet

**6. Consent Agenda**

- a. Approve minutes from the VNNC Board meetings held on June 14, July 12, and July 27. Minutes for the August 9 and August 23 Board meetings will be reviewed at the October Board meeting.

[https://vnnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/VNNC\\_GBM\\_Draft\\_Minutes\\_06142023\\_Final.pdf](https://vnnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/VNNC_GBM_Draft_Minutes_06142023_Final.pdf)

[https://vnnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/VNNC\\_GBM\\_Draft\\_Minutes\\_07122023\\_Final.pdf](https://vnnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/VNNC_GBM_Draft_Minutes_07122023_Final.pdf)

[https://vnnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/VNNC\\_SGBM\\_Draft\\_Minutes\\_07272023\\_Final.pdf](https://vnnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/VNNC_SGBM_Draft_Minutes_07272023_Final.pdf)

**Public Comment: no comments**

**Motion: Passed**

<b>VNNC Agenda Item 6. Motion to approve the consent calendar. Moved: Bolla Seconded: Edelman</b>				
<b>Yes –11</b>	No-00	Abstain-00	Ineligible-00	<b>Absent-04</b>
Azatyán, Bolla, Chavez, Edelman, Harari, Hendry, Kopelev, Nkuku, Schreiner, Vaughan, Zegotarski	None	None	None	Apikyan, Camera, Kalb, Kim

- 7. Discussion and possible action to vote to fill the vacant seat for At Large Resident Representative Seat 1 with applicant Jarred Piña. NOTE: Mr. Piña initially applied for the Zone 1 Resident seat. Since this seat was filled by Brian Edelman on August 9<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Piña agreed to be considered for the At-Large Resident Representative Seat 1.)

[https://vnnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/VNNC\\_Boardmember\\_Application-from-Jarren-Pina-080223.pdf](https://vnnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/VNNC_Boardmember_Application-from-Jarren-Pina-080223.pdf)

**Public Comment: Mr. Hopp, Goat Puppet**

**Motion: Passed**

<b>VNNC Agenda Item 7. Motion to appoint Jarred Pina as At-Large Resident Representative, Seat 1. Moved: Bolla Seconded: Kopelev</b>				
<b>Yes –11</b>	No-00	Abstain-00	Ineligible-00	<b>Absent-04</b>
Azatyán, Bolla, Chavez, Edelman, Harari, Hendry, Kopelev, Nkuku, Schreiner, Vaughan, Zegotarski	None	None	None	Apikyan, Camera, Kalb, Kim

The oath of office for Jarred Pina was administered by President Schreiner. Jarred Pina took his seat.

- 8. Discussion and possible action to approve July 2023 MER (Monthly Expenditure Report).

Beginning Balance	Total Spent	Remaining Balance	Outstanding	Net Available
\$32,000	\$272.93	\$31,727.07	\$1281.72	\$30,445.35

<https://vnnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/July-2023-MER-1.pdf>

**Public Comment: Mr. Hopp, Mr. Marez**

**Motion: Passed**

<b>VNNC Agenda Item 8. Motion to approve the July 2023 MER. Moved: Harari Seconded: Azatyán</b>				
<b>Yes –11</b>	No-00	Abstain-00	<b>Ineligible-01</b>	<b>Absent-04</b>
Azatyán, Bolla, Chavez, Edelman, Harari, Hendry, Kopelev, Nkuku, Schreiner, Vaughan, Zegotarski	None	None	<b>Pina</b>	Apikyan, Camera, Kalb, Kim

- 9. Discussion and possible action to revise the VNNC budget by adding \$3,646.40 in rollover funds – with \$78 allocated to Elections (to cover a late billing paid in July) and \$3,568.40 allocated to the line item for

Neighborhood Purpose Grants. Total budget will be \$35,646.40. *See budget with proposed revisions on page 9.*

**Public Comment: Mr. Marez, Mr. Hopp, Goat Puppet**

**Motion: Passed**

<b>VNNC Agenda Item 9. Motion to revise the VNNC budget. Moved: Zezotarski Seconded: Vaughan</b>				
<b>Yes –09</b>	<b>No-02</b>	Abstain-00	<b>Ineligible-01</b>	<b>Absent-04</b>
Azatyán, Chavez, Harari, Hendry, Kopelev, Nkuku, Schreiner, Vaughan, Zezotarski	Bolla, Edelman,	None	Pina	Apikyan, Camera, Kalb, Kim

10. Discussion and possible action to purchase a VNNC phone number and voicemail service from Vonage for an annual amount not to exceed \$350.

**Public Comment: Mr. Hopp, Goat Puppet**

**Motion: Passed**

<b>VNNC Agenda Item 10. Motion to amend to purchase a VNNC phone number and voicemail service for an annual amount not to exceed \$350. Moved: Vaughan Seconded: Zezotarski</b>				
<b>Yes –11</b>	No-00	Abstain-00	<b>Ineligible-01</b>	<b>Absent-04</b>
Azatyán, Bolla, Chavez, Edelman, Harari, Hendry, Kopelev, Nkuku, Schreiner, Vaughan, Zezotarski	None	None	<b>Pina</b>	Apikyan, Camera, Kalb, Kim

<b>VNNC Agenda Item 10. Motion to approve to purchase a VNNC phone number and voicemail service for an annual amount not to exceed \$350. Moved: Kopelev Seconded: Zezotarski</b>				
<b>Yes –11</b>	No-00	Abstain-00	<b>Ineligible-01</b>	<b>Absent-04</b>
Azatyán, Bolla, Chavez, Edelman, Harari, Hendry, Kopelev, Nkuku, Schreiner, Vaughan, Zezotarski	None	None	<b>Pina</b>	Apikyan, Camera, Kalb, Kim

11. Discussion and possible action to spend up to \$400 to purchase business cards and name tags (for Outreach events) for current Board members.

**Public Comment: Goat Puppet, Mr. Hopp**

**Motion: Passed**

<b>VNNC Agenda Item 11. Motion to approve \$400 for business cards and name tags. Moved: Edelman Seconded: Harari</b>				
<b>Yes –11</b>	No-00	Abstain-00	<b>Ineligible-01</b>	<b>Absent-04</b>
Azatyán, Bolla, Chavez, Edelman, Harari, Hendry, Kopelev, Nkuku, Schreiner, Vaughan, Zezotarski	None	None	<b>Pina</b>	Apikyan, Camera, Kalb, Kim

12. Discussion and possible action to approve \$500 for VNNC to have a booth for outreach at the Valley Presbyterian Annual Health Fair, which will take place on October 14 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Public Comment: Mr. Marez, Mr. Hopp, Goat Puppet**

**Motion: Passed**

<b>VNNC Agenda Item 12. Motion to approve the participation for an outreach booth at the Valley Presbyterian Annual Health Fair. Moved: Harari Seconded: Nkuku</b>				
<b>Yes –11</b>	No-00	Abstain-00	<b>Ineligible-01</b>	<b>Absent-04</b>
Azatyán, Bolla, Chavez, Edelman, Harari, Hendry, Kopelev, Nkuku, Schreiner, Vaughan, Zezotarski	None	None	<b>Pina</b>	Apikyan, Camera, Kalb, Kim

13. Discussion and possible action to join with the Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council and other SFV NCs

to co-sponsor a public forum within the next 90 days, at a location in the San Fernando Valley, in order to seek expert testimony on the environmental, health and safety, and economic impacts of Van Nuys Airport (VNY) on the surrounding communities. Background: The Van Nuys Airport is planning to expand, but has not taken adequate steps to consult with the community. At a meeting of the airport’s Citizens Advisory Committee on 9/5 over 100 citizens attended, and many expressed concerns about current impacts of the airport on their lives and questioned whether expansion would lead to more negative impacts.

**Public Comment: Mr. Marez, Mr. Hopp, Goat Puppet**

**Motion: Passed**

<b>VNNC Agenda Item 13. Motion to join with the Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council and other SFV NCs to co-sponsor a public forum within the next 90 days, at a location in the San Fernando Valley, in order to seek expert testimony on the environmental, health and safety, and economic impacts of Van Nuys Airport (VNY) on the surrounding communities. Moved: Zezotarski Seconded: Edelman</b>				
<b>Yes –11</b>	No-00	Abstain-00	<b>Ineligible-01</b>	<b>Absent-04</b>
Azatyán, Bolla, Chavez, Edelman, Harari, Hendry, Kopelev, Nkuku, Schreiner, Vaughan, Zezotarski	None	None	<b>Pina</b>	Apikyan, Camera, Kalb, Kim

**President Schreiner moved to item 15.**

14. Discussion and possible action to submit a CIS to the City Council and the City Planning Commission on Council File 22-0392 to express opposition to the City authorizing Metro to erect two large digital billboards on Metro property near the G Line (Orange Line) at Van Nuys Blvd. and Sepulveda Blvd. Background: At the direction of the Los Angeles City Council, Los Angeles City Planning has prepared two ordinances to amend the Zoning Code to allow the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) to implement a Transit Communication Network (TCN) (CF 22-0392). Metro is proposing to erect digital display signs on up to 49 Metro-owned parcels throughout the city that are adjacent to certain freeways and major streets as part of its TCN program. The proposed ordinances, known collectively as the Metro TCN ordinance, will create a new Supplemental Use District (SUD) and include a Zone Change to apply the TCN SUD and its regulations to specific parcels owned by Metro.

Position taken by Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council: The Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council at its July 10, 2023 meeting adopted a position of Against regarding City Council File 22-0392. The proposed Transportation Communication Network (TCN) (Council File 22-0392) ordinance will allow Metro to erect up to 86 digital billboards on Metro owned property, approximately 50-foot long electronic, moving image billboards with up to 51,000 square feet of display area with an estimated income of \$15 million to \$25 million per year that will be split evenly with Metro and the City of Los Angeles (Metro’s annual budget is \$9 billion dollars, LA City’s budget is \$43 billion). These billboards will be along freeways and surface streets. For little financial gain from the TNC, the citizens will suffer unnecessary visual blight and unsafe driver distraction. Therefore, the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council strongly opposes the LA City Planning Department’s ordinance to amend the Los Angeles Municipal Code to allow Metro to implement a Transportation Communication Network (TCN) (CF 22-0392).

**Public Comment: Mr. Marez, Goat Puppet**

**Motion: Passed**

<b>VNNC Agenda Item 14. Motion to submit a CIS to the City Council and the City Planning Commission on Council File 22-0392 to express opposition to the City authorizing Metro to erect two large digital billboards on Metro property near the G Line (Orange Line) at Van Nuys Blvd. and Sepulveda Blvd. Moved: Edelman Seconded: Zezotarski</b>				
<b>Yes –10</b>	No-00	Abstain-00	<b>Ineligible-01</b>	<b>Absent-05</b>

Azatyán, Bolla, Chavez, Edelman, Harari, Hendry, Kopelev, Nkuku, Schreiner, Zegotarski	None	None	<b>Pina</b>	Apikyan, Camera, Kalb, Kim, Vaughan
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**President Schreiner moved the meeting to item 15b.**

15. Discussion and possible action to continue work on forming the Committees that are required by the VNNC Bylaws – including Budget and Finance, Outreach, and PLUM (Planning and Land Use Management. (See excerpt on p. 7 from Article VII of the VNNC Bylaws regarding creation of committees.)

- a. Discussion and possible action to elect David Harari to chair the Budget and Finance Committee.

**Public Comment: Mr. Hopp, Mr. Marez, Goat Puppet**

**Motion: Passed**

<b>VNNC Agenda Item 15. Motion to appoint David Harari as chair of the Budget and Finance Committee</b>				
<b>Moved: Edelman Seconded: Nkuku</b>				
<b>Yes –11</b>	No-00	Abstain-00	<b>Ineligible-01</b>	<b>Absent-04</b>
Azatyán, Bolla, Chavez, Edelman, Harari, Hendry, Kopelev, Nkuku, Schreiner, Vaughan, Zegotarski	None	None	<b>Pina</b>	Apikyan, Camera, Kalb, Kim

**Vaughan left the meeting at 9:20PM.**

**President Schreiner moved to Item 14.**

- b. Ask the Chairs of the three committees to each pick up to four Board members to join their committee. Board members should let Chairs know if they are interested in joining a Committee.  
**No action taken.**

16. Discussion and possible action to name VNNC Board members as liaisons to the organizations listed below. Note: one vote to be taken to cover all appointments. More info on alliances can be found at <https://empowerla.org/alliances/>

Alliance	Number of reps	Meeting time
LANCC (Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition)	* one primary rep to vote * one alternate rep All may attend	Meets on Zoom the 1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
VANC (Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils)	* one primary rep to vote * one alternate rep All may attend	Meets on Zoom the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.
Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance	* 2 representatives (Note Quirino de la Cuesta is a stakeholder representative) All may attend	Meets on Zoom the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm
DWP Advocacy and MOU oversight	* at least one representative All may attend	Meets on Zoom the 1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month from 8:30 to 10 a.m.

Neighborhood Council Emergency Preparedness Alliance	Not sure	Meets last Saturday of the month from 10 a.m. to noon.
Plan Check NC	Less focused on representation; more of an information exchange. All may attend.	Meets on Zoom the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month

**No action taken.**

17. Discussion and possible action to approve holding a Board retreat at the Van Nuys Branch Library on a Saturday morning in the next 4-5 weeks. Potential topics to be covered include:
- a. Identify Key Issues for the VNNC to address in FY 2023 and possibly identify key projects for action.
  - b. Discuss what committees need to be formed to address Key Issues.
  - c. Review key procedures for conducting VNNC business, such as preparing and posting agendas, preparing minutes, etc.
- No action taken. Boardmembers are to submit availability.**
18. Identification of topics Board members would like to discuss at a future meeting. Cyle Zezotarski- No Ethic's Commission appointments until Jamie York's appointment has been addressed.
19. Adjournment Edelman made the motion to adjourn at 9:46PM.