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Parliamentarian

Members

Samuel Apikyan
Hakop 'Jack' Azatyan
John Camera
Josue Chavez
David Harari
Ann Kalb
Yena Kim
David Kopelev
Britt Vaughan
Cyle Zezotarski

Van Nuys Neighborhood Council



Van Nuys Neighborhood Council General Board Meeting Draft Minutes Thursday, August 9, 2023

Van Nuys Neighborhood Council
P.O. Box 3118
Van Nuys, CA 91407-3118

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1. **Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance** The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by President Schreiner. Roll was called by John Hendry. There were eleven (11) Boardmembers present. Four (4) Boardmembers were absent. Quorum was met. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by John Camera.

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

2. **Reports from Government officials:**

- a. LAPD Van Nuys Division - <https://vnnc.org/resource/> SLO Perez reported that some of the officers are out on leave, but all requests will be answered. SLO Perez handed out the Van Nuys Basic Car map that includes the SLOs' contact information. The map can be found at <https://lapdonlinestrgeacc.blob.core.usgovcloudapi.net/lapdonlinemedia/2022/02/vnys-slo-map-aug-2021.pdf> There are currently five (5) SLO officers that make up the current detail. The top intersections for traffic collisions are Sherman Way and Woodman, Bolton and Victory, Ranchito and Victory, and Saticoy and Van Nuys. There were 85 collisions for the first six months of this year. Twenty of those collisions were serious and four (4) resulted in death and 61 were DUI related. So, if you are out at night, be careful about your surroundings.
- b. LAFD Deputy Chief Conroy reported about water safety and that there were 68 drownings in the County last year and that is about average year after year. This is the leading cause in death in children

from one to four in age. This topic affects all races, income levels, and genders equally. This tragedy is avoidable by proper supervision of children, fencing around pools with alarms, proper lessons, and no alcohol with water activities, These practices can reduce the number of drownings in our pools, lakes, rivers, and bathtubs.

- c. Council District 2 –Cairo Rodríguez cairo.rodriguez@lacity.org 818-755-7676 absent, no report
- d. Council District 4 – Ryan Ahari ryan.ahari@lacity.org 213-473-7004 reported that August 1st was the deadline for COVID rent relief. Do not self-evict. There are resources to connect renters to resources facing eviction. More information can be found at <https://housing.lacity.org/> Motion to require that all in-person and virtual committee meetings be available for Spanish translation. It was implemented last week and now Spanish speakers will be able to connect to their government. Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council Movies in the Park August 26th Event starts at 6:00PM and the movie starts at 8:00PM. The movie will be Super Mario Brothers and there will be free treats and this will be the last movie for the year.
- e. Council District 6 – President Schreiner introduced Councilwoman Imelda Padilla. She reported that it was very important to be at the meeting and that she would stay and listen for about an hour. It will take a few more weeks until they fill the field deputy position for the Van Nuys area. Mr. Hendry informed Ms. Padilla about a historic copy of the City seal on a private property that might be able to be saved.
- f. Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) – Alfonso Manzo alfonso.manzo@lacity.org reported that the Congress of Neighborhoods will Take place on Saturday, September 23rd and the event is free and open to the public. Mr. Harari expressed concern to the DONE rep that it would cost the VNNC roughly \$12,000 per year to pay for Spanish interpretation of monthly Board meetings (over 1/3 of total NC budget) and suggested that the City Council should pay for this expense.
- g. Mayor’s office – Michelle Vergara michelle.vergara@lacity.org (213) 400-9816 absent, no report
- h. Los Angeles County 3rd District (Lindsay Horvath) –absent, no report
- i. Assembly District 46 (Jesse Gabriel) – Alberto Vargas alberto.vargas@asm.ca.gov 818-346-4521 absent, no report
- j. Senate District 20 (Caroline Menjivar) – Jasmin Hernandez jasmin.hernandez@sen.ca.gov absent, no report
- k. California Congressional District 29 - President Schreiner reported that she received a notice that Osvaldo Ramirez is no longer working for Congressman Cardenas. She will reach out to find out who the new representative will be.
- l. Public comment: Mr. Hopp, Mr. Marez, Goat Puppet

3. Officer Reports

- a. President Schreiner encouraged Board members to attend the Mayor's Quarterly Infrastructure Update for NC Members, which will be held on Zoom on August 14th. She also encouraged Board members to participate in the Empowerment Congress.
- b. Vice-President- no report
- c. Secretary- Mr. Hendry expressed concerns about the City's policies regarding zoning and ADUs.
- d. Treasurer reported that he has gained access to the portal and has processed one check request.
- e. Parliamentarian reported that she wants to give the minute taker a raise. The minutes are good.
Public comment: Mr. Marez, Goat Puppet, Mr. Hopp

4. General Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

- a. Sam
- b. Dela
- c. Goat Puppet
- d. Mr. Marez
- e. Mr. Hopp

f. Lionel Mares

5. **Consent Agenda**

a. Approve minutes from the June 14th and July 12th General Board meetings.

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

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

Motion: Passed

VNNC Agenda Item 5a. Motion to postpone the minutes until the September General Board meeting. Moved: Bolla Secoded: Camera				
Yes –08	No-03	Abstain-00	Ineligible-00	Absent-04
Bolla, Camera, Hendry, Kalb, Kim, Nkuku, Patton, Schreiner,	Harari, Kopelev, Zezotarski	None	None	Apikyan, Azatyan, Chavez, Vaughan

6. Discussion and possible action to vote to fill the vacant seat for Resident Representative Zone 1 with applicant Brian Edelman.

<https://vnnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/2023-08-Edelman1.png>

<https://vnnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/2023-08-Edelman2.png>

Mr. Edelman spoke about his time on the Board and his duties as timekeeper. He has been a homeowner for 17 years and has been coming to Board meetings since 2016. He is glad that some of the Boardmembers that have been on the Board a long time give the Board continuity.

Public Comment: Mr. Marez

Motion: Passed

VNNC Agenda Item 6. Motion to appoint Brian Edelman as the Zone 1 Representative. Moved: Bolla Secoded: Nkuku				
Yes –11	No-00	Abstain-00	Ineligible-00	Absent-04
Bolla, Camera, Harari, Hendry, Kalb, Kim, Kopelev, Nkuku, Patton, Schreiner, Zezotarski	None	None	None	Apikyan, Azatyan, Chavez, Vaughan

7. Discussion and possible action to approve the recommendation from the PLUM Committee (6/28 meeting) to provide a letter to the Planning Department in support of the following new multifamily housing project:

Case No. DIR-2022-5107-TOC-SPR-VHCA.

6728 N. Sepulveda 91411 & 6715 N. Columbus Ave. 91405

Proposing new construction on vacant site of a 268,229 sq. ft., 405-unit apartment development (including 41 affordable units for Extremely Low Income) in a 6-story, 66-foot building with 2.83 to 1 FAR, 32,813 sq. ft. open space, 556 vehicular spaces, and 194 bike spaces. TOC Tier 3. Specific actions requested from City include (1) Pursuant to TOC Guidelines, seeking additional incentives for increase height (up to 22 ft.) and reduction of open space (by up to 25%); and (2) seeking Site Plan Review approval for a multi-family residential building with more than 50 units.

Applicant: Leon Benrimon, Uncommon Developers. Agent/Representative: Alix Wisner, Ambruster Goldsmith & Delvac LLP.

Digital copies of project documents can be found at:

<https://planning.lacity.org/pdiscaseinfo/caseid/MjU5Mjkw0>

(in box on top right of screen, review approved documents and then click on "Initial Submittal Documents" to find links to additional project documents)

Kim questioned how the stray cat population on the property will be addressed. How will you remove the stray cats? We will let the owners know and they will address the issue just before construction.

Bolla believes that that the Board should support the project and take a vote.

President Schreiner recessed the meeting at 8:46PM

President Schreiner recalled the meeting to order at 8:50PM

Harari questioned the ingress and egress of the property. The entrance is three car widths.

Edelman questioned the traffic flow around the area during construction.

Zeotarski asked about pet amenities. They will be located on the roof.

Patton was pleased about the parking that is part of the project.

Hendry agrees with the speakers and that he does not take Sepulveda because of the traffic.

Public Comment: Mr. Hopp, Q, Mr. Marez, Goat Puppet, Jarred

Motion: Passed

VNNC Agenda Item 7. Motion to approve the recommendation from the PLUM Committee (6/28 meeting) to provide a letter to the Planning Department in support of the following new multifamily housing project. Moved: Zeotarski Seconded: Kopelev				
Yes –10	No-02	Abstain-00	Ineligible-00	Absent-04
Bolla, Camera, Edelman, Harari, Hendry, Kim, Kopelev, Nkuku, Patton, Schreiner,	Kalb, Zeotarski	None	None	Apikyan, Azatyan, Chavez, Vaughan

8. Discussion and possible action to consider revising the Board’s action at its meeting on July 27th to assign individuals to fiscal roles identified in the Administrative Packet. (Individuals who fill these roles must have Fiscal Officer training.) The following assignments were made on July 27th:

- * Second Signer (of Board Action Certification (BAC) forms): Kathy Schreiner
- * Alternate Signer: Maduka Nkuku
- * First Cardholder: Brian Patton
- * Second Cardholder: Kathy Schreiner

There was discussion about making changes to two roles: Second Signer and First Cardholder.

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

Motion: Passed

VNNC Agenda Item 8a. Motion to approve Maduka Nkuku as first cardholder. Moved: Schreiner Seconded: Harari				
Yes –12	No-00	Abstain-00	Ineligible-00	Absent-04
Bolla, Camera, Edelman, Harari, Hendry, Kalb, Kim, Kopelev, Nkuku, Patton, Schreiner, Zeotarski	None	None	None	Apikyan, Azatyan, Chavez, Vaughan

Public comment: Mr. Hopp. Goat Puppet

Motion: Passed

VNNC Agenda Item 8b. Motion to approve Bolla as Second Signer Moved: Bolla Seconded: Hendry				
Yes –08	No-01	Abstain-03	Ineligible-00	Absent-04
Bolla, Camera, Harari, Hendry, Kalb, Kim, Kopelev, Patton,	Nkuku	Schreiner, Edelman, Zeotarski	None	Apikyan, Azatyan, Chavez, Vaughan

9. Discussion and possible action to select chairs for the Committees that are required by the VNNC Bylaws. See attached Article VII of the VNNC Bylaws regarding committees.
 - a. Executive Committee – no action needed. Members are the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Parliamentarian. President chairs.
 - b. Budget & Finance Committee

Public Comment: Mr. Hopp, Goat Puppet

Motion: Passed

VNNC Agenda Item 9b. Motion to appoint Brian Patton as Chair of Budget and Finance Committee. Moved: Schreiner Seconded: Harari				
Yes –12	No-00	Abstain-00	Ineligible-00	Absent-04
Bolla, Camera, Edelman, Harari, Hendry, Kalb, Kim, Kopelev, Nkuku, Patton, Schreiner, Zezotarski	None	None	None	Apikyan, Azatyan, Chavez, Vaughan

- c. Outreach Committee

Public Comment: Mr. Hopp, Goat Puppet

Motion: Passed

VNNC Agenda Item 9c. Motion to appoint Maduka Nkuku as Outreach Chair. Moved: Schreiner Seconded: Harari				
Yes –11	No-01	Abstain-00	Ineligible-00	Absent-04
Camera, Edelman, Harari, Hendry, Kalb, Kim, Kopelev, Nkuku, Patton, Schreiner, Zezotarski	Bolla	None	None	Apikyan, Azatyan, Chavez, Vaughan

- d. Planning and Land Use Management (PLUM) Committee
 Bolla nominated Camera as chair. He declined the nomination.
 Camera nominated Kim as chair. Kim accepted the nomination. Bolla seconded the nomination.

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

Motion: Kim was appointed chair of the PLUM committee.

VNNC Agenda Item 9d. Motion to appoint Kathy Schreiner or Yena Kim as PLUM Chair. Moved: Schreiner Seconded: Nkuku				
Schreiner-05	Kim-06	Abstain-01	Ineligible-00	Absent-04
Harari, Kopelev, Nkuku, Schreiner, Zezotarski	Bolla, Hendry, Kalb, Kim, Camera, Patton	Edelman	None	Apikyan, Azatyan, Chavez, Vaughan

10. Setting Focus for the VNNC in 2023-24

- a. Discussion and possible action to identify Key Issues for the VNNC to address in FY 2023. **No action taken.**
- b. Discussion and possible action to identify committees to address Key Issues. (Note: The VNNC’s Standing Rules, which have not been modified since 2018, list the following committees, in addition to the required committees: Education, Public Health & Safety, Parks and Recreation Committee, and Special Committee on Policy & Education. The Standing Rules can be amended to reflect an updated list of committees.) **No action taken.**

11. Future Board topics

- a. Discussion and possible action to file a CIS in support of CF 22-1489, which requests reports from Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) about efforts by the Van Nuys Airport to seek input from the

community on recent redevelopment projects and proposals for future community engagement.

Summary of actions from Council File and copy of original motion:

<https://vnnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/Summary-of-Council-File-22-1489-re-Van-Nuys-Airport-and-opportunity-for-co.-input.pdf> **No action taken.**

For official Council File, use the City Clerk's Council File Management System:

<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/m.clerkconnect/#/cfmsSearch> Enter 22-1489 as the Council File number and click Search.

- b. Discussion of possible outreach events for VNNC. **No action taken.**
- c. Discussion of possible Board retreat. **No action taken.**
- d. Identification of topics Board members would like to discuss at a future meeting. **No action taken.**

12. Adjournment **The meeting was adjourned at 9:54PM Moved: Harari Seconded: Nkuku.**