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Van Nuys Neighborhood Council



Van Nuys Neighborhood Council General Board Meeting Draft Minutes Wednesday, October 11, 2023



Van Nuys Neighborhood Council
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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

1. **Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance** The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM by President Schreiner. Roll was called by John Hendry. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by John Camera. There were twelve (12) Boardmembers present. Four (4) Boardmembers were absent. Quorum was met.

VNNC ITEM 1. Roll Call	
Present –12	Absent-04
Bolla, Camera, Chavez, Edelman, Harari, Hendry, Kalb, Kim, Kopelev, Schreiner, Vaughan, Zezotarski	Apikyan, Azatyan, Nkuku, Pina

2. Reports from Government officials:

- a. LAPD Van Nuys Division - <https://vnnc.org/resource/> Senior Lead Officer Perez reported that there has not been a cruising event since early October of this year. Cruising will not be happening in Van Nuys. LAPD has been citing the organizers based on advice from the City Attorney's Office. Aetna was completely cleaned and the homeless were either moved to another area or housed. LASan will be able to maintain the area. Halloween trunk or treat event and a Van Nuys jail Break Drive Through will take place on October 20, 2023 from 7:00PM-9:00PM. Flyers will be provided.
- b. LAFD Chief De La Cruz has just been promoted to chief and is currently stationed at Station 39, LAFD.org has many resources for public safety and emergency preparedness.
- c. Council District 2 –Arus Grigoryan arus.grigoryan@lacity.org 818-210-1504 (cell) reported that she has been at CD 2 for over two years and that if you have any questions feel free to contact her.
- d. Council District 4 – Ryan Ahari ryan.ahari@lacity.org 213-473-7004 absent, no report.
- e. Council District 6 – Brian Patton brian.patton@lacity.org Office: (818) 778-4999, Cell: (818) 270-1931 reported that that the Council Office is working on controlling graffiti and bulky items. He thanked

President Schreiner for attending the tree planting last month. 84 trees were planted.

- f. Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) – Alfonso Manzo alfonso.manzo@lacity.org reported that SB 411 is on the Governor’s Desk and that DONE will be working on the procedures for Neighborhood Councils on how to implement the new law.
- 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 reported that the legislative session has gone on recess. A few of the Senator’s bills were signed by the Governor.
- k. California Congressional District 29 absent, no report.
- l. LA Metro – Ron Macias, Principal Community Relations Officer, Construction Relations maciasr@metro.net reported that the East San Fernando Valley Light Rail Transit (ESFVLR) Project will have two meetings, one virtual and one in-person with project updates. The virtual meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 25, 2023 from 6:00PM to 7:30PM on Zoom. The webinar ID is 935 1318 0180 and the Call-in phone number is 301-715-8592. The in-person meeting and open house will be held on Thursday, November 2, 2023 from 6:00PM to 7:30PM at the Arleta First Assembly of God 9757 Arleta Ave Arleta, CA 91331 and there will be free onsite parking. The meeting agenda will be the same at both meetings and Spanish interpreters will be available. More information at www.metro.net/esfvtransit

Public comment: Mr. Marez, Caroline Tarski, Mr. Hopp, Sean, Goat Puppet

Jarred Pina joined the meeting at 7:12PM.

Jarred Pina left the meeting at 7:25PM.

3. **Presentation about LA City Planning's Orange (G) Line Transit Neighborhood Plan (OLTNP).** The OLTNP is a long-range planning effort that focuses on three Metro Orange (G) Line stations: the Van Nuys, Sepulveda, and North Hollywood Stations.

The Plan seeks to create a vibrant, pedestrian-friendly environment through:

- improved housing options for people of all income levels
- increased employment opportunities
- better access to sustainable mobility options

The project team last conducted community outreach in 2020. Since then, the project team has refined the Plan’s Draft land use and zoning, and will be releasing draft materials in the fall.

Public comment: Caroline Tarski, Goat Puppet, Sean

4. **Officer Reports**

- a. President Schreiner- 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. Due to issues with the vendor agreement for the Valley Presbyterian Health Fair, the VNNC will not be participating in the health fair.
- b. Vice-President Nkuku- absent
- c. Secretary Hendry- reported that he has suggested reaching out to Homeboy Industries to possibly get a café in the Van Nuys Government Center. He has also been working with Brian Patton from Councilwomen Padilla’s Office.

- d. Treasurer Harari- no updates
- e. Parliamentarian Bolla- wants the Board to work the process better.
- f. **Public comment: Mr. Marez, Mr. Hopp, Goat Puppet**

Jarred Pina rejoined the meeting at 8:13PM.

5. Discussion and possible action to vote to fill the vacancy for At-Large Representative Seat 2. Three residents of Van Nuys have applied and meet the qualifications for this seat, which is the last remaining vacancy for an at-large seat. The Board will interview the three candidates and then each Board member will vote for one of the candidates. The candidate with the majority of votes will be appointed to the seat and sworn in. VNNC Bylaws (Article V Governing Board, Section 6 Vacancies) outline the following procedure to be followed in the event that more than two (2) candidates stand for a seat:
 If no candidate wins a majority of votes cast in the first round, only the two (2) candidates with the most votes proceed to a second round of voting.
 A coin toss will be used to resolve a tie.

(Note that the two candidates who are not selected for the current vacancy will be encouraged to participate in VNNC Committees and other activities. Also, they will be eligible to be considered for future vacancies.)

- a. Nick Grimm had withdrawn his application.
<https://vnnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/2023-10-NickGrimm.png>
- b. Cassandra Morris
<https://vnnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/2023-10-CassandraMorris.png>
- c. Sohrob Tahmasebi
<https://vnnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/2023-10-SohrobTahmasebi.png>

Public Comment: Mr. Hopp, Goat Puppet

Motion: Passed

VNNC Agenda Item 5. Motion to postpone item to the November meeting. Moved: Chavez Seconded: Edelman				
Yes-12	No-00	Abstain-00	Ineligible-01	Absent-03
Bolla, Camera, Chavez, Edelman, Harari, Hendry, Kalb, Kim, Kopelev, Schreiner, Vaughan, Zezotarski	None	None	Pina	Apikyan, Azatyan, Nkuku

- d. At the November Board meeting, the Board will implement Section 7F of the Bylaws and declare that the remaining vacant seats will become at-large seats. (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.”)

6. Consent Agenda

- a. Approve minutes from the VNNC Board meetings held on August 9, August 23, and September 13.
https://vnnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/VNNC_GBM_Draft_Minutes_08092023_Final_rev.pdf
https://vnnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/VNNC_SGBM_Draft_Minutes_08232023_Final.pdf
https://vnnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/VNNC_GBM_Draft_Minutes_09132023_Final_rev.pdf

Public Comment: Goat Puppet, Mr. Hopp

Motion: Passed

VNNC Agenda Item 6a. Motion to approve the consent calendar. Moved: Edelman Seconded: Hendry				
Yes-12	No-00	Abstain-00	Ineligible-01	Absent-03
Bolla, Camera, Chavez, Edelman, Harari, Hendry, Kalb, Kim, Kopelev, Schreiner, Vaughan, Zezotarski	None	None	Pina	Apikyan, Azatyan, Nkuku

7. Action items from the Budget and Finance Committee 9/27/23 meeting requiring roll call votes.

a. Approve August MER

https://vnnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/VNNC_MER_082023.pdf

Public Comment: Mr. Marez, Mr. Hopp

Motion: Passed

VNNC Agenda Item 7a. Motion to approve the August 2023 MER. Moved: Edelman Seconded: Kopelev				
Yes-12	No-00	Abstain-00	Ineligible-01	Absent-03
Bolla, Camera, Chavez, Edelman, Harari, Hendry, Kalb, Kim, Kopelev, Schreiner, Vaughan, Zezotarski	None	None	Pina	Apikyan, Azatyan, Nkuku

b. Approve reimbursement to David Harari for \$120.45 for purchasing food for the September 13, 2023 General Board Meeting.

https://vnnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/VNNC_GB_FoodReceipt_DH.pdf

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

Motion: Passed

VNNC Agenda Item 7b. Motion to approve reimbursement to David Harari for \$120.45 for purchasing food for the September 13, 2023 General Board Meeting. Moved: Bolla Seconded: Kim				
Yes-12	No-00	Abstain-00	Ineligible-01	Absent-03
Bolla, Camera, Chavez, Edelman, Harari, Hendry, Kalb, Kim, Kopelev, Schreiner, Vaughan, Zezotarski	None	None	Pina	Apikyan, Azatyan, Nkuku

8. General Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items:

a. Mr. Hopp

b. Goat Puppet

c. Caroline Tarski

9. Announce and encourage Board members and the public to attend Community Events on Key Issues

a. The VANC-sponsored Housing Element Town Hall on October 14 from 1 to 3 p.m. in Lake Balboa at St. Michael's Church at 16643 Vanowen St.

b. Community Meeting on Vision Plan for the Sepulveda Basin on October 17 from 6 to 8 pm in person at Encino Community Center, 4935 Balboa Blvd. or October 18 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. (virtual on Zoom).

Public comment: Mr. Marez, Mr. Hopp, Goat Puppet, Caroline Tarski

10. Discussion about required VNNC Committees (upcoming meetings, etc.)

a. Budget and Finance Committee – Chair, David Harari reported that he would send out an email for the next meeting to be held on October 23rd.

b. Outreach Committee – Chair, Maduka Nkuku. Ms. Vaughan reported on behalf of Chair Nkuku that

the committee is exploring the possibility of partnering for a holiday event with Delano Rec Center.

- c. PLUM Committee – Chair Yena Kim reported that the next PLUM meeting will be held on October 25th. If someone wants to be on the PLUM committee, email Ms. Kim by October 15th.

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

President Schreiner moved the meeting to Item 12.

- 11. 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 st 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 nd 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 nd 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 st 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 nd Saturday of the month

Public Comment: Mr. Marez

Motion: Passed

VNNC Agenda Item 11a. Motion to approve VNNC Boardmembers Schreiner and Zezotarski as liaisons for the Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance. Moved: Edelman Seconded: Vaughan

Yes-12	No-00	Abstain-00	Ineligible-01	Absent-03
Bolla, Camera, Chavez, Edelman, Harari, Hendry, Kalb, Kim, Kopelev, Schreiner, Vaughan, Zezotarski	None	None	Pina	Apikyan, Azatyan, Nkuku

VNNC Agenda Item 11b. Motion to approve VNNC Boardmember Vaughan as a liaison for the Neighborhood Council Emergency Preparedness Alliance. Moved: Bolla Seconded: Edelman

Yes-11	No-00	Abstain-01	Ineligible-01	Absent-03
Bolla, Camera, Chavez, Edelman, Harari, Hendry, Kalb, Kim, Kopelev, Schreiner, Zezotarski	None	Vaughan	Pina	Apikyan, Azatyan, Nkuku

12. Discussion and possible action to approve holding a Board retreat at the Van Nuys Branch Library on Saturday, October 28, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and to authorize up to \$75 for purchase of refreshments. Potential topics to be covered include:
- Identify Key Issues for the VNNC to address in FY 2023 and possibly identify key projects for action.
 - Discuss what committees need to be formed to address Key Issues.
 - Review key procedures for conducting VNNC business, such as preparing and posting agendas, preparing minutes, etc.

Public Comment: Mr. Marez, Goat Puppet

Motion: Passed

VNNC Agenda Item 12. Motion to approve holding a Board retreat at the Van Nuys Branch Library on Saturday, October 28, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and to authorize up to \$75 for purchase of refreshments. Moved: Kopelev Seconded: Edelman				
Yes-12	No-00	Abstain-00	Ineligible-01	Absent-03
Bolla, Camera, Chavez, Edelman, Harari, Hendry, Kalb, Kim, Kopelev, Schreiner, Vaughan, Zezotarski	None	None	Pina	Apikyan, Azatyan, Nkuku

13. Updates on unresolved topics
- No further action can be taken by the Neighborhood Councils regarding nomination of Jamie York to the Ethics Commission. Controller Mejia has appointed a new candidate for the seat.
 - Waiting for response from DONE and City Attorney regarding issue that led to the resignation of Studio City NC members.
 - If SB 411 is signed by the Governor, it will still require City Council action to allow individual neighborhood councils to choose how meetings will be conducted.
 - A workplan regarding the VNNC website will be discussed at the next Outreach Committee meeting.

Public comment: Caroline Tarski

President Schreiner moved the meeting to Item 11.

14. Identification of topics Board members would like to discuss at a future meeting.
15. Adjournment Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Boardmember Edelman, The meeting adjourned at 9:34PM.