

Minutes of the General Board Meeting of the

Reseda Neighborhood Council

Monday, May 21, 2018

Reseda Neighborhood Council Community Space, 18118 Sherman Way, Reseda, CA 91335

- I. **Meeting called to order** by Board President C.R. Cochrane at 7:11 PM.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

- II. **In attendance:** making a quorum: C.R. Cochrane, Gilbert Juarez, Anna Measles, Benjamin Johnson, Martin Buonora, Sharon Brewer, Priscilla Anchondo, Yassmin Flores, Narguess Noohi, Cameron Lambert, Jeffery Minter and Mandy Espada Hernandez. **Not in attendance:** David Garner, Joe Phillips and Anthony Contreras

III. **Introduction of City Employees and other visitors:**

1. Introduction of minute taker **Paul Plunkett**.
2. **Joseph Campbell** representing Councilmember Bob Blumenfeld's Office announced and upcoming event, the First Annual Family Festival and Safety Fair at Reseda High School, taking place on June 2<sup>nd</sup> from 10am-3pm. Councilmember Blumenfeld will attend.
3. LAPD Officers from the West Valley, SLO **Officer Bocanegra** and **Officer Vasquez** addressed the meeting.
  - i. Officer Vasquez said the Neighborhood Watch meeting location has been changed. Will be held at a private residence. If anyone is interested in attending, call Officer Vasquez at 818-374-7629.
  - ii. The LAPD is looking to reduce the amount of service calls on July 4, They have compiled a list of problem locations from last year and are trying to make a big push to educate citizens about reporting problem spots with neighbors from prior years to the LAPD ahead of time so that the LAPD can talk to people involved at the potential problem spots prior to the 4<sup>th</sup>. They are doing a lot of outreach and want to reduce the amount of calls on the Fourth of July. They recommend going to fireworks shows at public, established locations throughout the city.
  - iii. Officer Vasquez will be on vacation next month, from June 7 through July 7.
  - iv. A stakeholder asks about what's being done to reduce street racing in the western part of Reseda. Officer Vasquez replied that there used to be a specific unit that handled street racing, but that unit has been dismantled, so she recommends calling the non-emergency or emergency number, depending on how serious and urgent the situation being reported is. Officer Bocanegra pointed out that Officer York from Valley Traffic Division is the Senior Lead for the West Valley area for traffic related issues. Officer Tony Serreno is on loan to

Air Support. The officers say that reporting any relevant information is helpful – time, place, direction the street racers are going, etc.

v. On May 24, LAPD officers are getting trained in Next Door groups (referring to the app Next Door) so that the officers can join different neighborhood groups and are available to communicate on that platform. Once they get clearance for the Next Door groups, the officers will let the RNC know. More information to follow at the next RNC meeting.

4. **Tanaz Golshan** the West Valley Area Representative from Mayor Garcetti’s Valley Office addressed the meeting. She has a lot of neighborhood council meetings to go to and since they’re typically on Mondays, she can’t regularly attend each one. Feel free to contact her if anything comes up.

i. Homelessness is the big priority, they are working with nonprofits, the county, neighborhood councils, committees, liaisons, getting as much input for planning as possible. This is an all-hands-on-deck situation, there is funding from H and HHH and also funding from the Mayor’s budget. They are looking to see what works best for each neighborhood to help get people off the streets or in tents. In the West Valley, there’s attention being given to people living in their cars and RV’s. HOPE teams are being worked with in terms of outreach to homeless in encampments, cars, etc.

ii. If anyone needs to contact her, her email is [tanaz.golshan@lacity.org](mailto:tanaz.golshan@lacity.org).

5. **Colin Crews**, Senior Field Deputy for Councilmember Mitch Englander CD12 addressed the meeting.

i. Councilmember Englander recently put in a motion requesting the City Attorney’s Office and LAPD report back all pertinent ordinances regarding penalties and fines for street racing, also the effectiveness of rumble strips, tested in Chatsworth. These are somewhere between speed bumps and strips, makes streets less desirable for racing.

ii. Crews reported on the Councilmember’s Neighborhoods First initiative on Homelessness. They are continuing the pilot program they started in October, which combines LAPD HOPE teams and Bureau of Sanitation as well as Dept. of Transportation parking enforcement. They go out as a team and address reports of people living in RV’s and sidewalks being blocked. It’s been effective in terms of keeping encampments from growing because they’re out there making contact. They are offering resources for folks to get off streets.

iii. Crews reported that the Councilmember recently put in a motion calling on DWP to develop pilot program for floating solar panels on DWP reservoirs. It’s a cool, exciting idea, can generate a lot of renewable energy, has great potential, and they’re moving forward with it, hoping this will also be done reservoirs in CD 12.

iv. Crews reported that there was a great Citrus Sunday this past weekend, where citrus is collected from all around the community and donated to local

food banks. He doesn't have exact figures of how much was collected, but judging by photos he'd seen online, it was an outstanding turnout.

6. **Vanessa Serrano**, Neighborhood Council Advocate, addressed the meeting with a few announcements.
  - i. Everyone is up to date on their Ethics Training, but if members want to attend more training, a City Attorney will do a two-hour live training session on June 11 in Van Nuys at the Marvin Broad Center, at 5:30 pm – this is an opportunity for clarification, questions, etc. RSVP is required, which can be done via a link in an email she will send to members tonight.
  - ii. **Funding Deadlines:** The fiscal year closing, members should be thinking about the new fiscal year budget. Although our department will not be requesting it as they have in the past because funding has transferred to the Office of the City Clerk, the deadline to submit is July 1. There is no new template out yet, feel free to use the same one.
  - iii. The last day to submit payment request to be paid by check is June 1, the last day for the bank card is June 20, so make sure all approved tonight gets taken care of by those dates.

#### **IV. Public Comment and Announcements:**

- 1 **John Pelzer** – He's a 35-year resident of the area and a first time candidate running for congress in District 30. He started his campaign almost nine months ago – as a first time candidate he needed to learn about you and vice versa. Daunting until his first Neighborhood Council meeting, it's been a great education, he wishes everyone knew what a civic model these meetings are. He outlined some things he's been active about as a candidate and gives thanks to the group.
- 2 **Stakeholder Ruby** – She's a homeowner at 7315 Darby Ave, this is first time she's attended, presenting a petition on behalf of self and homeowners to make Canby Street a permit parking-only area, to the amount of RV's parking and people on their streets trafficking drugs. Also she's been emailing the owner of the American Legion on Canby street, about the cargo containers and the problem they pose as an attractive place for drug dealers to hide out and conduct business, she'd like more folks to contact him. [larrybowman@yahoo.com](mailto:larrybowman@yahoo.com). Anna Measles notes that the council knows him.
- 3 **Diane Delino** – representing the Reseda Wake Up Crew, an AA group that has been meeting at a local community hall for 23 years. The hall's new owner has asked them to vacate, so they need a new space for meetings and are looking for help. They are longstanding community members, also have many retired people, professionals, teachers, nurses, etc., there are also 2-3 sober living homes in the area, those people don't have vehicles so a nearby meeting place is important. Meetings take place at 6:45-7:45 am each day, Monday-Sunday, they provide coffee, refreshments, etc. Ideally they'd need a space they could use from 6:15-8:30am in total. If there's a space available, it would be greatly appreciated, looking at lots of places in the area. We provide a valuable resource. A phone number is on a card that Martin Buonora has.
- 4 **Alexis Woodward** – Here representing the Ministries of Victory outreach, they're in the area, people might have seen their banners, they evangelize on the streets. They come from Chino,

targeting gang members, drug addicts, helping them recover. The group is trying to start a men's home, and are looking for connections with like minds who want to help. There's an event coming from May 30-June 1 called Code Red, look it up online, they are targeting human trafficking globally. If you know any organizations that are willing to partner, they go out and try to rescue women from pits, looking for partners, she has cards if anyone is interested.

#### **V. Executive Officer Reports:**

- a. **President – C. R. Cochrane**
  - i. Announces the retreat this coming Saturday May 27. Everyone will be notified of the location once it's confirmed, please save the date (the retreat is primarily for the Board but is also open to the public).
  - ii. She reported on a dynamic Seniors Symposium, she wants to thank all who participated, it was a great turnout, with 900-1000 people in attendance. Lots of t-shirts were distributed, they ran out of ink pens, which is excellent. The event is basically a resource for one generation that supplies benefits for senior citizens. The Senior Symposium idea originated in this RNC. It's a great success and they want us back.
  - iii. She announced that the council would like to have a town hall meeting in June in this facility on Homelessness. This was intended to be on tonight's agenda but it didn't get there. She needs to work with Anthony Contreras, our Homelessness Liaison. There's lots of concern in the neighborhood, so please look forward to the Town hall meetings, info coming soon on the web site.
  - iv. The West Valley Food bank looking for volunteers, anyone interested should please contact us or them.
  - v. The Reseda Woman's Council just celebrated its centennial. They had a recent luncheon, we recognized them earlier this year and are more than happy to recognize their achievement again.
  - vi. Finally, a procedural issue for our board, there were some miscommunications this weekend, if you have a concern or problem, please get in touch with C.R. first, before contacting Vanessa Serrano or our Attorney. Let's follow a chain of command if possible.
- b. Vice President – **David Garner** – Not here, no report.
- c. Treasurer – **Gilbert Juarez** has items to report, but will include that in the MER discussion ahead on the agenda.
- d. Sergeant-At-Arms – **J. Benjamin Johnson** notes that in light of recent terrible events (public mass shootings), it's always a good idea to make sure at all times you know where exits are at and have a plan of escape if the worst happens. Stay safe.
- e. Parliamentarian – **Anna Measles** is still waiting for bylaws, and we should have had elections of officers this month, that window has been missed.

#### **VI. RNC Committee Reports:**

1. Beautifying Reseda (ad hoc) **Yassmin Flores** – Thanks to everyone who came out for helping with the cleanup, we had 40 folks, joined w/El Camino and the chamber, thanks to everyone.

2. Bylaws & Stand. Rules **DJ Frank** – We don't have the updated bylaws yet, they're not approved yet.
3. Community Space **J. Benjamin Johnson** thanks the council for their patience with him in terms of the community space efforts. As time goes on, procedures and such will be more and more streamlined. That said, if anyone has an event for the space, contact him to put the request in. The committee's next meeting is Thursday May 31. Once the fiscal year ends, a calendar for the space will be done and after June 7 will be linked to the RNC web site. A recent mobility meeting had some noise issues because the Center Stage Opera was next door. It's not the Opera's fault, but rooms aren't soundproof. If overlap happens it will be addressed, and systems are being put in place to avoid such situations. The booking prioritizing goes in order of City first, RNC second and then third parties.
4. Disaster & Emer. Services **Larry Bowman** – not here, but **Garth Carlson** reports that the next meeting is June 12 in this space at 6:00 pm. Waiting to find out when next CPR training classes can happen.
5. Economic Development **Garth Carlson** – Tomorrow night is meeting here, 7:00 pm, many things being worked on, Clean Streets, Vision Zero for Reseda Blvd. He's been asked to start a committee for business improvement district. **NOTE:** C.R. Cochrane notes that Wells Fargo has contacted the council and would like to offer a seminar for the business community, she'll refer them to this committee.
6. Finance **Gilbert Juarez** – Holding off until the MER agenda items, later in this meeting.
7. Health & Wellness **Nasim Bahadorani** – No report.
8. Homelessness Advocacy **Anthony Contreras** – No report.
9. Mobility & Environment **Joe Phillips** – No report.
10. Newsletter **Garth Carlson** – He was trying finish it today, he's expecting articles, has just a little space left, if he gets articles tonight, they'll go in, otherwise he'll use pictures to fill space. Looking to have done prior to 1st of month.
11. Outreach **David Garner** – not present, but outreach supplies will need to be ordered, if you have ideas, please let us know. T-shirts were a big hit.
12. PLUM **D.J. Frank** – PLUM will be dark in June, no meeting, there are some general things that will show up in the RNC agendas here.

#### **VIII. Presentations/Announcements/ FYI:**

No presentations at this time.

#### **IX. Reseda Neighborhood Council Administrative Matters**

1. The Reseda NC Board to accept and vote upon the resignation of Board Member Juana Torres as of 4/23/2018.
2. **Board Vacancies:** The Reseda Neighborhood Council Board will hold a board election to fill the vacancy of 1 "residential stakeholder" seat which was vacated by Ms. Juana Torres as of 4/23/2018. In accordance with the bylaws, any qualified "residential stakeholder" may choose to run for the vacant seat(s) and there will be a vote if necessary at the general meeting at least

30 days from the announcement (June 6th, 2018). Eligibility for the residential position is defined as an "residential stakeholder" who lives within the Reseda neighborhood Council boundaries and who is at least 18 years of age.

3. Mid Valley YMCA is hosting their 5th annual Team LAWA fundraiser entitled Endless Pancake Breakfast, Saturday June 2, 2018, 9am-12pm, Fire Station 114, Van Nuys Airport. 16617 Arminta St. Van Nuys, CA 91406. Tickets \$5.00 in advance, \$6.00 on the day of the event.

### **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

4. The Reseda NC Board to discuss and consider the disbursement of the funds for the "Clean Streets Challenge" which was won by Board member Priscilla Anchondo on behalf of our council. These funds of \$1250.00 may be utilized according to the guidelines. (see distribution letter hand out). The deadline to request funds is June 10, 2018. Keep that in mind, if there any recommendations, bring those up. Sharon Brewer notes that she checked with the City Clerk, these funds can be rolled over to the next fiscal year. C.R. Cochrane asks that please bring the letter from City Clerk spelling that out to next meeting.
5. The Reseda NC Board to Discuss & consider the following recommendations of the finance committee and or community space committee:
  - a. Review and approve the MER for March 2018.
    - i. As noted before, Gilbert Juarez takes this opportunity to combine this item and his Treasurer's Report. He explains the budget, displaying graphics, figures and charts projected and in a handout. He explains how the budget is allocated, how it works and how much is currently available, depending on how funds get allocated in various agenda items previously voted on and to be voted on tonight. C.R. Cochrane suggests a public seminar in the future to explain how all this works.

Anna Measles moves to vote, Jeffery Minter seconds.

After a period of discussion and public comments, the Motion passes

Vote count: Yes 9 No 1 (Brewer) Abstain 1 (Cochrane) Ineligible 1 (Lambert)

- b. Review and approve the MER for April 2018.

Anna Measles moves to vote, Priscilla Anchondo seconds.

After a period of discussion and public comments, the Motion passes

Vote count: Yes 9 No 1 (Brewer) Abstain 1 (Cochrane) Ineligible 1 (Lambert)

- c. Discussion and possible action to reimburse funds of \$77.27 to Yassmin Flores for purchase of snacks for our monthly meetings.

Jeffrey Minter moves to vote, Maggie Espada-Hernandez seconds.

After a period of discussion and public comments, the Motion passes

Vote count: Yes 8 No 1 (Brewer) Abstain 1 (Cochrane) Ineligible 2 (Flores, Lambert)

- d. Discussion and possible action to approve funds of up to \$999. for the 2018 Reseda NC retreat.

After a period of discussion and public comments, the Motion passes.

Vote count: Yes 6 No 2 (Measles, Brewer) Abstain 3 (Cochrane, Mintner, Espada-Hernandez) Ineligible 1 (Lambert)

- e. Discussion and possible action to approve funds of up to \$500.00 for new and re-ordering of existing member Board Business Cards.

Anna Measles moves to amend the amount to \$200.00, Jeffrey Minter seconds.

After a period of discussion and public comments, the Motion passes unanimously.

Vote count: Yes 10 No 0 Abstain 1(Cochrane) Ineligible 1(Lambert)

- f. Discussion and possible action to approve funds of up to \$8,500.00 for marketing materials ranging from stickers, shirts, mugs, banners, bags, bags, pens, stationery, stickers, flags, toys, and other marketing accessories.

Jeffrey Minter moves to reduce the amount in Item f. to \$2000.00, Narguess Noohi seconds.

After a period of discussion and public comments, the amendment of the motion passes.

Vote count: Yes 9 No 1 (Brewer) Abstain 1 (Cochrane) Ineligible 1 (Lambert)

The vote on item f. proceeds.

After a period of discussion and public comments, the motion passes.

Vote count: Yes 8 No 1 (Brewer) Abstain 2 (Cochrane, Anchondo) Ineligible 1 (Lambert)

- g. Discussion and possible action to approve funds of up to \$1,000.00 for a set amount of fabric folding chairs.(Finance committee w/define w/clear explanation)

The vote on item g. proceeds.

After a period of discussion and public comments, the Motion passes

Vote count: Yes 5 No 4 (Juarez, Johnson, Buonora, Brewer) Abstain 2 (Cochrane, Mintner) Ineligible 1 (Lambert)

- h. Discussion and possible action to approve of up to \$200.00 for the purchase of a U.S.flag.

Jeffrey Minter moves to postpone this vote, J. Benjamin Johnson seconds.

After a period of discussion and public comments, including the discovery of another flag, the Motion to postpone this vote passes unanimously.

Vote count: Yes 10 No 0 Abstain 1 (Cochrane) Ineligible 1 (Lambert)

- i. Discussion and possible action to approve funds of up to \$500.00 for our newsletter to purchase double tier plastic bins.

The vote on item i. proceeds.

After a period of discussion and public comments, the Motion passes

Vote count: Yes 9 No 1 (Flores) Abstain 1 (Cochrane) Ineligible 1 (Lambert)

- j. Discussion and possible action to approve funds of up to \$850.00 for the NPG application of the non-Profit "Southern California Preparedness Foundation's" 11 Annual Valley Disaster Fair scheduled for Sat., Sept 29, 2018, 9am-1:30pm in Northridge.

Anna Measles moves to postpone this vote, Jeffrey Minter seconds.

After a period of discussion and public comments, the Motion passes

Vote count: Yes 8 No 2 (Juarez, Johnson) Abstain 1 (Cochrane) Ineligible 1 (Lambert)

- k. Discussion and possible action to approve funds up to \$1150.00 for the NPG application of the non-profit "Making the Arts Real for Youth Foundation" (M.A.R.Y.), pending a more concise explanation from the finance committee to the Board.

Priscilla Anchondo moves to postpone due to lack of funds, Yassmin Flores seconds.

After discussion, item k. will be excluded from agenda as it was put on in error.

- l. Discussion and possible action to approve funds of up to \$4000 for financial support of the LA Neighborhood Councils annual 2018 Congress of Neighborhoods event, which will be held on September 22, 2018.

J. Benjamin Johnson moves to discuss, Priscilla Anchondo seconds.

After discussion, Anna Measles moves to amend the motion to approve up to \$2000.00, Priscilla Anchondo seconds.

Prior to the amendment vote, Cameron Lambert left at 9:32 pm.

After a period of discussion and public comments, the amendment to the motion passes unanimously. The vote on the motion for item l. proceeds.

The Motion passes.

Vote count: Yes 9 No 1 (Brewer) Abstain 1 (Cochrane)

- m. Discussion and possible action to approve funds of up to \$3000 for financial support of the Neighborhoods Council Budget Advocates citywide Budget Day, which will be held on June 23, 2018.

After discussion, Jeffrey Minter moves to amend the motion to approve up to \$500.00, Anna Measles seconds.

After a period of discussion and public comments, the amendment to the motion passes.

Vote count: Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 2 (Cochrane, Juarez)

The vote on the motion for item m. proceeds.

Motion is approved by unanimous vote, Cochrane Abstains.

- n. Based upon the outcome of today's General Board Meetings financial decisions, Discussion and possible action to approve the reallocation of \$9364.00 OR \$7364.00 of funds from the Neighborhood Purpose Grant category to General & Operational

category and the reallocation of \$1250.00 of funds from the Community Improvement Project category to General & Operational category on the Fiscal Year Budget 2017-2018.

Discussion commences on the budget, allocations, procedures. Gilbert Juarez explain and clarify the agenda item, showing on the projector.

After a period of discussion and public comments, the Motion passes

Vote count: Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 2 (Cochrane, Buonora)

- o. Discussion and possible action to approve operational funds of up to \$2500.00 for Community Space operational equipment including but not limited to a microwave oven, a coffee maker, coffee cups w/lids, a (large) wall calendar, pens, markers, paper clips, writing tablets, staples, copy paper, a (larger more visible) wall clock, an electronic timer for timekeeping, bathroom paper & cleaning supplies. J. Benjamin Johnson explains the agenda item, showing suggested supply lists on the projected screen with items listed and explains each and how they will help make the council's work more efficient and avoid problems that have occurred in the past. Vanessa Serrano notes that items on the list such as tablets will need to be explained to the City Clerk's office for clarity.

After discussion Jeffrey Minter moves to postpone the item to the next fiscal year, Anna Measles seconds.

The Motion passes unanimously, Cochrane Abstains.

#### **X. Upcoming Agenda Items:**

1. Possible future agenda items that Board Members would like to include on upcoming agendas should be directed to the Reseda NC President, CR Cochrane or Vice President, David Garner.

**XI. Tentative -Next Meeting:** 7:00pm, Mon. June 4, 2018 . Reseda NC Community Space 18118 Sherman Way, Reseda, CA 91335 (front half of Bank of America building)

Note: Dates of Future Meetings: Tentative APPROVED General Board meeting dates are the first and third Monday of each month;

Monday, June 4, 7:00pm

Monday, June 18, 7:00pm.

**XII. Adjournment – 10:05 PM.**