

Minutes of the Regular General Board Meeting of the

Reseda Neighborhood Council

Monday, December 3, 2018

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

Email Sharon brewer rani's contact info

- I. **Meeting called to order** by Board President Anna Measles at 7:01 PM.
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance** was led by Jeffrey Minter.
- III. **Roll Call – In attendance**, making a quorum: Anna Measles, Jeffrey Minter, Sarah Williams, Priscilla Anchondo, Sharon Brewer, Martin Buonora, Yassmin Flores, Robert Vogel, Cameron Lambert and Joe Phillips. **Not in attendance**: CR Cochrane, J. Benjamin Johnson, Gilbert Juarez, Maggi Espada-Hernandez (both Gilbert Juarez and Maggi Espada-Hernandez arrived after the Roll Call, unsure of exact time from recording)
- IV. **Introduction of City Employees and other visitors:**
 - A. **Officer Bocanegra**, Senior Lead Officer w/LAPD, addressed the meeting. There's been a 7.5% decrease in crime in the Reseda area over the past year. There was a homicide on Thanksgiving, the suspect has been arrested, it was a domestic violence situation. Active investigation is ongoing, he can't give more information. He asks everyone to be careful with leaving belongings in vehicle, always a seasonal uptick in vehicle break-ins this time of year. Neighborhood Watch Facebook page – they have a new data person who is very good at adding to the page. Bank of America ATM robber discussed, he used a BB gun, officers responded and arrested him.
- V. **Public Comment and Announcements:**
 - A. **Trudy Schoolhouse**, a residential stakeholder, addressed the council. Spoke about Reseda upgrades noted on the agenda, discussed for 10 years but she hasn't seen anything get done. This place is dirtier, filthier, more homeless, more crime than it was before. She mentioned the 'Welcome to Reseda' sign across the street, saying it's dilapidated, run down. She got tired of coming to meetings because of promises not kept. She's had rat infestations, calls 311 to have things picked up. She was critical of \$9000 for holiday decorations. Anna Measles noted that the sign she referred to is on private property, so the RNC can't do anything about it. Discussion ensued with several board members responding, Vanessa Serrano interrupted the discussion to get the meeting back on track, noting that the public comments don't require immediate addressing.
 - B. **Steven Rydin**, True Summit Promotions, owner of a promotional advertising company. Throwing his hat in the ring to provide promotional materials to the RNC.
- VI. **Announcements:**
 - A. Los Angeles Family Housing (LAFH) will be holding a Connect Day to provide services to community members in need of assistance on Thursday, December 13th in Reseda Park, 18429 Victory Blvd, Reseda, CA 91335.

- B. The Reseda Neighborhood Council will be having a holiday party on December 17th 2018 in lieu of the regular scheduled meeting. Everyone is welcome and Happy Holidays from the Reseda Neighborhood Council.
- C. The Reseda Neighborhood Council has a vacant Residential Community Stakeholder seat. To qualify for the seat a stakeholder must live within the Reseda Neighborhood Council boundaries as defined in Article III of the bylaws and be at least 18 years of age. Any Stakeholder interested in filling a vacancy on the Board shall submit a written application to the Secretary, Jeffrey Minter, at any time before a vote is taken. The earliest a vote shall be taken is on the January 7th, 2018 Meeting to allow for 30 days of outreach.
- D. The Reseda Neighborhood Council has a vacant At-Large Community Stakeholder seat. To qualify for the seat a stakeholder must live, work or own real property in the neighborhood and also to those who declare a stake in the neighborhood as a community interest stakeholder, defined as a person who affirms a substantial and ongoing participation within the Neighborhood Council's boundaries and who may be in a community organization such as, but not limited to, educational, non-profit and/or religious organizations and is at least 18 years of age. Any Stakeholder interested in filling a vacancy on the Board shall submit a written application to the Secretary, Jeffrey Minter, at any time before a vote is taken. The earliest a vote shall be taken is on the January 7th, 2018 Meeting to allow for 30 days of outreach.

VII. Presentations:

A. American Red Cross

Two representatives from the ARC addressed the board to express appreciation for the RNC opening its doors to the ARC. They presented certificates of appreciation, pictures were taken, applause. Another certificate of appreciation was given to Priscila Anchondo for opening the space up and locking up, each time. Photo taken, applause.

B. Vision Zero-Sherman Way Conceptual Plan, Project Update

DOT has been working on Reseda Blvd & Sherman Way intersection and other nearby projects. Steve Frieson and several DOT representatives updated the conceptual plan. They spoke about the status of the Sherman Way Streetscape project. Wilbur to Etiwanda is planned to be a protected bikeway, maintaining two travel lanes in each direction. There are plans to remove curb parking spaces to make room to provide Landscaping/Streetscape Enhancements. Etiwanda to Lindley would also be a protected bikeway, removing one travel lane in each direction. Visual examples of cross-sections of a revised streets were shown. Potential roundabout locations were discussed. The representatives noted that they're looking for feedback and noted outreach activities they've conducted: Project Steering Committee Briefing 11/8, Vision Zero Open House, 11/15, RNC tonight. The schedule ahead: Design Plans to be completed by end of January, project planning completion 1/30, 2019. Anna Measles extended their time for more discussion. Yassmin Flores was concerned that slow cyclists will impede traffic. There were questions about what kind of planting/landscaping will be done, as well as safety concerns. The DOT noted that they look at sustainability and viability in the planning, knowing that it has to be maintained. Some plantings are indigenous and are more sustainable in this arid environment. Whatever gets put in, the intent is that it's sustainable and practical. Priscilla Anchondo noted that getting onto Etiwanda is difficult due to all the speedy traffic, these efforts will help. Martin Buonora said he appreciates the efforts being made. The DOT representatives clarified the completion process, which includes the procurement/bidding process, contract awarding,

noting that it can take upwards of six months. Joe Phillips had several comments, in the interest of time Anna Measles asked him to speak with the representatives separately.

VIII. **Officer Reports:**

- A. Vice President Anna Measles:
No report to give at this time.
- B. Secretary Jeffrey Minter:
Quick update for website, new switch happening soon, within a week or so. Links to previous minutes and other items will be coming in agendas.
- C. Parliamentarian Sarah Williams:
Reminded folks to look to her for time limits during meetings.

IX. **Committee Reports:**

- A. Outreach and Public Relations – Sarah Williams (Chair)
We are not having the regular general meeting in two weeks, but a holiday party instead, please join us. Outreach meetings, open to all stakeholders will be agendaized. She is taking pictures for social media, will be doing outreach for vacant seats, voting in January. General Board elections will be on May 19. Garth Carlson spoke about the December newsletter, it was printed and is in the process of being delivered. Anyone who wants the electronic version, sign up on the clipboard in the back.
- B. Planning and Land Use Management (PLUM) – D.J. Frank (Chair)
Waiting for the agenda item.
- C. Finance Committee/Grant Proposal – Anna Measles (Vice Chair)
No meeting held yet, electing a new Treasurer later in this agenda.
- D. Disaster & Emergency Services/Community Safety – Garth Carlson (Presiding Chair)
Next meeting will be in January, all are welcome to stop by.
- E. Youth & Senior Advocacy – Carmen Winston (Chair)
Not present.
- F. Economic Development – Garth Carlson (Chair)
Meeting on the 29th of January. Reseda Business Directory will be online when new site goes up, working with the business community.
- G. By-laws & Standing Rules – D.J. Frank (Chair)
Sarah Williams spoke, regular meeting is 4th Tuesday of the month, next meet is 1/22 at 5:30 due to December holidays, currently working on standing rules.
- H. Health & Wellness – Maggi Espada-Hernandez (Chair)
Meeting each 4th Wednesday, so maybe first week of January, she'll look on the calendar, maybe 1/30 at 5:00. Also there was an event rescheduled due to wildfire issues, 2/9 is new date, hope everyone can make it, anyone who wants to be on the committee, please come to the meeting to get more info.
- I. Mobility & Environment – Joe Phillips (Chair)
Next meeting will be this upcoming Monday, 7 pm, planning in January to start our community cleanup again. Had been doing a lot of cleanups but noticed that the city and businesses are doing a good job, if anyone knows of specific areas needing cleanup, please speak up and let him know. Touted the 311 app. January event to kickoff the cleanup efforts, focusing on the 311 app.
- J. Homelessness Advocacy – Vacant
If anyone is interested in chairing this committee, doesn't have to be a board member, let secretary know.

- K. Community Space – Robert Vogel (Chair)
Just had a meeting, agreed to do some things, replace some lights, will be agendized for January Board approval. Thanks to Sarah Williams who did all of the decorations today.
- L. Ad Hoc Election – Priscilla Anchondo (Chair)
The elections are required every two years, half of the council is up for election, it alternates. Committees meets the 4th Monday of each month until the elections. December meeting will be 12/19 at 6 pm, anyone who wants to is welcome to come. City Clerk’s office is asking RNC to do more outreach. Informational meeting to be held on 2/2 to provide the community with info about the RNC and ask for more people to be a part of it. Candidate forum will be set up in April, date TBD.

X. Approval of Minutes:

- A. September 17, 2018
Linked in the agenda, Anna Measles asked for a show of hands who had received or read them. Jeffrey Minter explained that going forward there will be links in the meeting agendas. Sharon Brewer suggested sending out the minutes as a pdf in an email, as had been the practice before. Discussion about how to download and save pdf’s took place, and Sarah Williams clarified that a motion and vote could take place to codify the method of distributing minutes. These items were tabled.

XI. Business:

- A. Discussion and possible action regarding the Planning and Land Use Management Committee’s recommendation for the:
 - 1. RNC to support the request of the Jewish Home for the Aging to improve and develop their property as presented to the committee and as described here; 7100-7150 Tampa Blvd/Southeast and Southwest Corners of Tampa and Sherman Way. Los Angeles Jewish Home for the Aging is requesting pursuant to LAAMC section 12.24 M, to construct, use and maintain two five story eldercare buildings with subterranean parking, demolition of a mortuary, and construction of an eldercare building with parking. Requesting also plan approval for floor area modification to permit an increase in the floor area of the Grancell Campus Building ‘A’ from 170,900 to 179,953 square feet, a building height modification to increase all proposed building heights from 56 to 63 feet, excavation modification to permit an increase in project grading from 125,000 cubic yards to a quantity of approximately 145,000 cubic yards. Case # ZA-2012-3051-ELD-SPR-ZV-PA1 (20 min) (DJ Frank)
DJ Frank outlined the item, describing what will take place. After discussion a show of hands vote was taken and the recommendation passed.
Vote Count: Yes 11, No 0, Abstain 1 (Juarez), Absent 2.
- B. Discussion and possible action regarding the Outreach and Public Relations Committee’s recommendation for the:
 - i. General Board to have a Holiday Lights installation deadline of December 10, 2018
After discussion of the cost breakdowns, the dates the lights would go up and come down, the value of having the lights at all, if the community would be upset if the lights don’t go up and the fact that the board has voted to allocate funds for this item in the past, (Vanessa Serrano advised the board that any monies fundraised are not the responsibility of the board to refund if the lights don’t go up) Martin Buonora moved to vote, Gilbert Juarez seconded, a show of hands vote was taken and the recommendation passed.

Vote Count: Yes 9, No 2 (Brewer, Juarez), Abstain 1 (Williams), Absent 2.

- ii. General Board begin voting on Youth Seat appointments at the second General Board meeting held in January

After discussion including details of outreach to the community that will take place for 15-17 year olds to apply, a show of hands vote was taken and the recommendation passed.

Vote Count: Yes 10, No 1 (Brewer), Abstain 1 (Flores), Absent 2.

C. Discussion and possible action to:

1. Determine the validity of the absences of Board Member Benjamin Johnson as specified in the RNC Standing Rules per the Reseda Neighborhood Council Bylaws § 7

After discussion, including Sharon Brewer's research of attendance records which showed Johnson being absent for 4 special meetings and 6 regular meetings, (10 out of 14 meetings), Yassmin Flores moved to vote Gilbert Juarez seconded, and by a show of hands vote, the discussion closed.

Vote Count to close discussion: Yes 9, No 3, Abstain 0, Absent 2. No further action needed.

2. Remove Board Member Benjamin Johnson for excessive absences as per the Reseda Neighborhood Council Bylaws § 7. Removal of the identified Board member requires two-thirds (2/3) majority of the attending Board members at which moment the position is vacant.

After discussion including Martin Buonora's observation that adherence to rules is selective, and a public comment from Glenn Bailey with an example from his NC and how reaching quorum is important and doesn't always happen in other NC's, Yassmin Flores moved to vote, Priscilla Anchondo seconded, a show of hands vote was taken and the motion passed.

Vote Count: Yes 9, No 3 (Buonora, Juarez, Lambert), Abstain 0, Absent 2

D. Officer Elections-Election for President, Treasurer and possible Vice-President.

Vanessa Serrano ran this process, going over procedures based on bylaws, explanations, then nominations/acceptance, close noms, statements, Q&A, voting by board members only (in the case of ties, stakeholders can vote).

President

Gilbert Juarez, Jeffrey Minter and Anna Measles were nominated and accepted their nominations. Nominations were closed, and the President's role based on bylaws was read by Vanessa Serrano. Juarez, Minter and Measles made their statements, followed by questions from board members then stakeholders.

Voting took place and Anna Measles was elected President.

Vote Count: Anna Measles 11, Gilbert Juarez 1, Jeffrey Minter 0.

At this time Cameron Lambert left the meeting.

Vice President

Priscilla Anchondo, Gilbert Juarez and Sarah Williams were nominated and accepted their nominations. Jeffrey Minter, Sharon Brewer, Yassmin Flores and Robert Vogel were nominated but did not accept their nominations. Nominations were closed, and the Vice President's role based on bylaws was read by Vanessa Serrano. Anchondo, Juarez and

Williams made their statements, followed by questions from the board members, then stakeholders.

Voting took place and Priscilla Anchondo was elected Vice President.

Vote Count: Priscilla Anchondo 6, Sarah Williams 3, Gilbert Juarez 2.

Treasurer

Sharon Brewer was nominated and accepted, Gilbert Juarez self-nominated and accepted. Nominations were closed, the Treasurer's role based on bylaws read by Vanessa Serrano. Brewer and Juarez made their statements, followed by questions from the board, then stakeholders.

Voting took place and Sharon Brewer was elected Treasurer

Vote Count: Sharon Brewer 11, Gilbert Juarez 0.

- E. Appointment by President of Chair of the Homelessness Advocacy Committee subject to Board confirmation.

After discussion, Sarah Williams nominated Jeffrey Minter, who accepted. Anna Measles appointed Minter and by a show of hands vote, Minter was appointed.

Vote Count: Yes 10, No 1 (Juarez), Abstain 0, Absent 2.

- F. Discussion and possible action regarding the security and use of the Reseda Neighborhood Council Community Space.

After discussion of the item, including changing the locks because there are keys from former members that have not been returned and also, Thanksgiving weekend the space was found with evidence that a party had been held, so Robert Vogel suggests replacing the lock. After discussion of vendors and if the owner is responsible for such an action, Yassmin Flores moved to change the locks for the RNC community space, Maggi Espada-Hernandez seconded. A show of hand votes was taken and the motion passed.

Vote Count: Yes 10, No 1 (Juarez), Abstain 0, Absent 2.

- G. Discussion and possible action to select and appoint 3 additional Community Impact Filers.

After discussion with background from Jeffrey Minter, and recommendation from Glenn Bailey that the board President and Secretary be Filers, Anna Measles asked if anyone was interested. Jeffrey Minter moved to add President and Secretary as filers, Yassmin Flores seconded. A show of hands vote was taken and the motion passed.

Vote Count: Yes 11, No 0, Abstain 0, Absent 2.

XII. Upcoming Agenda Items:

- A. Any stakeholder may request the inclusion of any specific agenda item for future meetings, and upon the concurrence of a majority vote of the Board, such item will be placed on the future agenda as requested, per Article VIII§2 of the Bylaws.

- B. Questions regarding any other future agenda items for upcoming meeting agendas should be directed to Reseda NC Vice President, Priscilla Anchondo, and President Anna Measles.

- C. Glenn Bailey – Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils has two events a year, looking forward to 16th Annual Mixer on March 14, Bailey requested placing supporting this with financial help (\$250) onto a future agenda and on the Finance Committee. Names of cosponsors will be included on invitations, and banners can be displayed at the event. Sarah Williams moved that this item be referred to the next Finance Committee Agenda, Jeffrey Minter seconded. A show of hands vote was taken and the motion passed.

Vote Count: Yes 11, No 0, Abstain 0, Absent 2.

- D. Jeffrey Minter moved to put on the next agenda the creation of an Executive Committee, after a discussion a show of hands vote was taken and the motion passed.

Vote Count: Yes 10, No 1 (Juarez), Abstain 0, Absent 2.

E. Yassmin Flores received an award on behalf of the RNC from the Reseda Church of Christ.

XIII. **Tentative -Next Meeting:** 7:00pm, Mon. January 7th, 2019 at Reseda NC Community Space
18118 Sherman Way, Reseda, CA 91335 (front half of Bank of America building).

XIV. **Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 PM.

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