



## Greater Valley Glen Council ("GVGC")

13654 Victory Blvd., #136, Valley Glen, CA 91401

[www.greatervalleyglencouncil.org](http://www.greatervalleyglencouncil.org)

### REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

**January 8, 2018, 7:00 p.m.**

Los Angeles Valley College, Campus Center, Fireside Room

5800 Fulton Avenue

Valley Glen, CA 91401

#### Officers

<b>Sloan Myrick</b>	President
<b>Jean Chadwick</b>	Vice President
<b>Rich Pisani</b>	Treasurer
<b>Mickey Jannol</b>	Secretary

#### Board Members

<b>Michael Ashkinadze</b>	Youth Rep	<b>Walter Hall</b>	Community Organizations Rep
<b>Joseph Barmettler</b>	At-Large Rep	<b>Derek Iversen</b>	District 5 Rep
<b>James Casey</b>	District 6 Rep	<b>Mickey Jannol</b>	Commercial Property Rep
<b>Julie Casey</b>	District 6 Rep	<b>Malky Kertis</b>	District 4 Rep
<b>Doug Chadwick</b>	At-Large Rep	<b>Sloan Myrick</b>	District 5 Rep
<b>Jean Chadwick</b>	District 2 Rep	<b>Thomas Newton</b>	Community Organizations Rep
<b>Joanne D'Antonio</b>	District 1 Rep	<b>Rich Pisani</b>	District 4 Rep
<b>Carlos Ferreyra</b>	District 2 Rep	<b>Dorothea Sargent</b>	At-Large Rep
<b>September Forsyth</b>	At-Large Rep	<b>Linda Wehrli</b>	Commercial Property Rep
<b>Stanley Friedman</b>	Religious Institutions Rep		

#### Board of Neighborhood Commissioners Required Disclosures:

- 1) A Quorum for any GVGC Board Meeting is 13 Board Members.
- 2) Motions (or Official Actions) pass with a Majority of the sum of Yes and No votes cast.
- 3) The attached Vote Tally Sheet shows how each Board Member voted at this Board Meeting.



*Secretary's Note: Each item # below matches the item# that appeared in the published agenda for this meeting.*

**Call to Order** was at 7:00 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance led by Senior Lead Officer Bailey.

1. **Board Roll Call.** 16 members present: Ashkinadze, James Casey, D. Chadwick, J. Chadwick, D'Antonio, Ferreyra, Friedman, Hall, Iversen, Jannol, Kertis, Myrick, Newton, Pisani, Sargent, Wehrl. Three members absent: Barmettler (attending Civic U), Julie Casey (attending Civic U), and Forsyth. Two members submitted their resignations before start of the meeting: Breidenbach and Celis. A quorum was achieved.
2. **Possible Nomination and Board Approval of new Board members.** There were no nominations. The Board has 6 vacancies to fill: two Merchant seats, two District 3 Rep seats (area north of Victory Blvd., south of Vanowen Street., east of the Tujunga Wash, west of the 170 Freeway), one Educational Institutions seat, and one District 1 Rep seat (area north of Oxnard Street, south of Vanowen Street, east of Hazeltine Avenue, west of Woodman Avenue). Board Members may nominate a stakeholder to the President and the President will submit the nomination to the Board for confirmation. Nominated Stakeholders shall meet the same eligibility requirements that apply to the position as required of elected Board Members.
3. **President's Comments.** President Myrick deferred his comments to Item # 10.
4. **Board approval of November 6, 2017 minutes.** Motion made by Myrick. Seconded by Pisani. Public Comment. None. Board Comment. Minor modification. Without objection, the President Myrick called the question. Voice Vote. 12 Ayes, 4 Abstentions, 0 Nos, 0 Ineligible. See attached Vote Tally for specific votes. Motion passes.
5. **Treasurer's Report**
  - A. **Motion for Board approval** of September MERs as per DONE requirements. MERs are found on the following link: <https://cityclerk.lacity.org/NCFundPortal/display.cfm?id=415&type=5>. Motion made by Pisani. Seconded by Ferreyra. Public Comment. None. Board Comment. None. Without objection, President Myrick called the question. Roll Call Vote: 14 Ayes, 0 Nos, 1 Abstention (D'Antonio), 1 Ineligible (Ashkinadze). Motion passes.
  - B. **Motion for Board approval** of expenditures of \$766.44 to reimburse Sloan Myrick of out of pocket expenditures for the recent Movie Night. This supersedes Treasurer's Motion "5C" that was Board-approved on 11/06/17. Motion made by Myrick. Seconded by Iversen. Public Comment. None. Board Comment. None. Without objection, President Myrick called the question. Roll Call Vote: 14 Ayes, 0 Nos, 1 Abstention (Myrick), 1 Ineligible (Ashkinadze). Motion passes.
  - C. **Motion for Board approval** of expenditures of \$115.67 to reimburse Sloan Myrick of out of pocket expenditures for food at the December 2017 Board meeting. Motion made by Myrick. Seconded by Newton. Public Comment. None. Board Comment. None. Without objection, President Myrick called the question. Roll Call Vote: 14 Ayes, 0 Nos, 1 Abstention (Myrick), 1 Ineligible (Ashkinadze). Motion passes.
  - D. **Budget Advocate Report.** Budget Advocate Brandon Pender encouraged Board Members to attend Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates Regional Budget Day at Van Nuys City Hall, Saturday 1/20/18 at 9:00 a.m. Check the website [www.ncbala.com](http://www.ncbala.com) to confirm. Budget Day is an excellent opportunity for Neighborhood Councils to provide input on City budget priorities. Budget Advocates work extensively to seek input from stakeholders on what City priorities should be. With this input, the Advocates prepare a "white paper" that makes recommendations to the Mayor.
6. **LAPD Senior Lead Officer ("SLO") Reports.** SLO Bailey shared his public cell phone # and email address as follows: 818-731-2566 and 33445@lapd.online. He reported that SLO Bergmann will return from vacation in time to attend the GVGC February Board meeting. He thanked everyone for their efforts to make the LAPD December Toy Drive a success. SLO Bailey especially thanked Board members D. Chadwick and J. Chadwick for playing the roles of Santa and Mrs. Claus. There were many at-risk children at the event and they enjoyed it. SLO Bailey reported that a multifamily building under construction at 6239 Fulton Ave. is becoming a homeless encampment. He advised all



that if they see anything suspicious, they should contact him. SLO reported that there were several vehicle break-ins at a subterranean parking structure at a multifamily property located at 13600 block of Vanowen St. He reminded everyone to observe “Lock It, Hide It, Keep It” which is the protocol people should use when leaving their car unattended for any length of time. *Secretary’s note:* this link may be helpful in understanding the protocol:

[http://www.lapdonline.org/search\\_results/content\\_basic\\_view/45729](http://www.lapdonline.org/search_results/content_basic_view/45729)

SLO Bailey reported that several calls came to LAPD regarding either shots fired in the air or fireworks along the Tujunga Wash. He remarked that callers need to give a specific address that abuts that part of the Wash in order for LAPD to properly research the matter. SLO Bailey took questions from the Public and Board Members. Notable discussions included fireworks activity on the south side of Vanowen St. (alleys behind certain multifamily buildings) between Ethel and Atoll Aves. SLO Bailey will make a site visit to the area for more information.

## 7. Government Representatives Reports.

**A. Office of EMPOWER LA,** President Myrick reported that Vanessa Serrano will return to GVGC as the EMPOWER LA Rep. Serrano was not able to attend this meeting. There were no Public comments or further Board member comments.

**B. Office of LA City Councilmember Paul Krekorian,** Council District 2 (CD2). Field Deputy Sahag Yedalian reported that he is in process of obtaining Department of Transportation approval for the Utility Box (Oxnard and Fulton Aves.) art project. Yedalian indicated paperwork for the shade structure at Valley Glen Community Park (Park) is in process, and the matter now sits with the Dept. of Recreation and Parks. Yedalian had previously estimated that construction on the shade cloth structure would begin in the summer of 2018. Yedalian invited everyone to attend the CD@-sponsored Homelessness Town Hall on Thursday, 1/18/17, from 6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. at LA Valley College, Monarch Hall. More details and an ability to RSVP appear on the website [www.paulkrekorian.org/cd2townhall](http://www.paulkrekorian.org/cd2townhall). Yedalian reminded all that the 2018 round of speed hump applications will open on 2/15/18. There will be 30 speed humps projects awarded in the entire City of LA. Finally, Yedalian reported that Councilman Krekorian will come to the GVGC’s February Board meeting. There was Public comment, specifically regarding a parking problem at Hamlin, Morse, and Kittridge Aves; this is the area north of Victory Blvd., south of Kittridge Ave., west of Coldwater Canyon Blvd. and east of the Tujunga Wash. Gangs and Homeless are using public parking to either hang out all day or live there. This causes a parking problem for the residents and creates public health and safety issues. The matter of getting restricted parking in the area was discussed but the residents in the neighborhood indicated they were having a difficult time obtaining written signatures from each neighbor (to approve of restricted parking). The reason for this is the neighbors want to keep to themselves as they are afraid of opening up the door to any possible gang onlookers. President Myrick and Public Safety Chair Ferreyra indicated they would assist in this matter and would get SLO Bailey involved. Board member Comment. Ferreyra asked about the Hampton Inn project at Victory Blvd. between Whitsett and the 170. He noted that there was lots of piled-up dirt and new Homeless Encampments at the construction site yet there has been no activity. Yedalian said he would look into it. D’Antonio requested that Yedalian help with the City Council approval of the CFAC alternate representative nominee. Julie Casey asked about what possibilities existed for City funds to be used to fix sidewalks in her District. Yedalian responded that the City has money to fix sidewalks and that there are three ways to get them fixed. One way is to make a service request vial 311. Another way, if this is a sidewalk in need of reconstruction, is to apply to [www.sidewalks.lacity.org](http://www.sidewalks.lacity.org). You can apply for up to \$10,000 reimbursement to fix a sidewalk by yourself. Of course, you will need to go through City permitting. Finally, in the event one or more members of a household abutting a damaged sidewalk is disabled, the City will rebuild the sidewalk at no cost to the homeowner. For streets without sidewalks and curbs, the City’s sidewalk repair/replacement funds are not available but Federal and State funds may be available. There were no Public comments or further Board member comments.

**C. Office of Congressman Tony Cardenas.** No representative present to report.

**D. Office of Assemblymember Adrin Nazarian.** No representative present to report.

8. Guest Speaker. There was no guest speaker.



9. **Public Comments on Items not on the Agenda.** Public Comment came from residents living north of Oxnard, west of Fulton, east of Buffalo Ave. on Sunnyslope, Greenbush, and Varna St. south of Bessemer St. Students at LA Valley College are parking in this area as well as apartment residents at the multifamily property at Fulton Ave. and Oxnard Ave. There are a number of abandoned cars and RVs; some of which are being lived in. Residents asked for assistance on forming an area to restrict parking on public streets to 2 hours during the day. Yedalian indicated that he would assist with this. Other Public comment made mention of possible drug activity at night at the Erwin Street Elementary School parking lot. A suggestion was made to put a fence around the lot but the school principal indicated funding may be very difficult to obtain (Board member Ferreyra noted that a similar problem exists at an open parking lot at Kittridge Street Elementary School). CD Rep Yedalian was still present and indicated that since the Councilman is attending the February Board meeting, residents from areas with parking issues and other issues such as the school parking lots should get an organized group of neighbors to attend the February meeting to further elevate this matter to the Councilman.
10. **President's Comments.** President Myrick discussed the 13724 Victory Blvd. project application to build a 67-unit 60-foot high project. The Developer is seeking a height variance and unit variance. A Zoning Administrator Hearing was held in October 2017 and the matter scheduled to be heard February 22, 2018 pending Zoning Administrator's recommendations. When the new Chair of the Planning and Land Use Committee (PLUC) assumed his position in November 2017, he asked prior PLUC members what actions were taken on this variance request. PLUC members recalled a presentation by the Developer in late December 2016 / early 2017 but no PLUC minutes exist. Upon further research by the Chair, the Developer indicated the matter had already been approved by the GVGC. The Developer provided a January 20, 2017 letter indicating the variance was approved by the GVGC, through PLUC. The letter was unsigned but the signature block includes the prior PLUC Chair and prior President, neither of which recall authoring such a letter. Board Meeting minutes do not indicate this Official Action by GVGC, and a polling of Board members did not reveal any recall as to whether the matter was ever discussed at a GVGC Board meeting.

President Myrick addressed the Board and Public and indicated that there are insufficient facts to concretely determine what happened except that the Developer likely has a strong argument that the unsigned letter serves as an approval. Due to less than adequate minute-taking by PLUC, GVGC would not be able to argue that the matter was heard before PLUC. However, with PLUC members recalling a presentation before the issuance of the unsigned approval letter, the Developer would likely prevail on his claim that he made a presentation and shortly thereafter received approval.

President Myrick then reminded Board members and Committee members that the Board is the only body that can approve an Official Action and that he will recommend best practices and rules as to how approval or other correspondence emanates from the GVGC to the Public. [Secretary's note: In connection with Item #18 on the Agenda, an ad hoc Bylaws Committee was established that will, among other things, consider President Myrick's recommendations.]

Public Comment. There were questions as to the exact location of the project and areas affected. The project is to be built on an old used car lot (now vacant) on the south side of Victory Blvd. 100-200 feet west of Woodman Ave. Its proposed height and density could impact District 1 and District 2. Although the project will have the required parking, increased traffic from tenancy could impact Victory Blvd. President Myrick indicated that even though GVGC may have taken action, stakeholders are still invited to attend the February 22, 2018 Planning Commission meeting to provide their input on this proposed project. He also indicated that stakeholders are able to file a Grievance as to GVGC's actions in relation to the Bylaws that were in effect at the time of the letter. Board member Comment.

**Note:** Without objection, President Myrick asked that item #14 be heard before 11 through 18. Therefore, the Minutes will show item #4, out of order.

#### **14. Parks, Community Improvements, and Medians Committee – S. Myrick, Chair**

- A. Committee report.** Chair Myrick indicated that the Valley Glen Community Park's grass issues have been corrected and the grass is now green.
- B. Motions for Board approval.**



**Motion B.1** The Parks & Improvements committee is requesting the Greater Valley Glen Board (GVGC) approve allocation up to \$750 to paint the walls & fences, belonging to the City of LA, along the South border of the Valley Glen Community Park. Painting will only be performed if all fence-adjacent homeowners approve the activity and paint color. Approved monies will be used for paint, supplies, and refreshments for volunteers. Motion made by Myrick. Seconded by Jannol.

Public Comment. None. Board Comment: None. Without objection, President Myrick called the question. Roll Call Vote: 15 Ayes, 0 Nos, 0 Abstentions, 1 Ineligible (Ashkinadze). Motion passes.

**Motion B.2** In order to beautify Valley Glen signage areas, request Board approve spending request up to \$300 to purchase drought tolerant and/or CA-native shrubbery to be planted by volunteers around signage at Coldwater Canyon and Burbank Blvd. Motion made by Myrick. Seconded by Wehrli.

Public Comment. None. Board Comment: Some discussion as to the need to better plan the rehabilitation of the signage itself, along with landscaping. Also, since this is City property, there was some question about getting approval from the City to work on the signage and landscaping. This also brought up discussion of City liability regarding volunteers doing work on a City owned property. Without objection, the Chair withdrew the motion.

**Motion B.3** Requesting Board to approving spending up to \$350 for purchase of pet waste bags and two (2) additional bag dispensers to be installed along the Tujunga Wash mural walkway. Motion made by Myrick. Seconded by Sargent.

Public Comment. None. Board Comment. Some discussion about putting trash cans along the area. However, there was some comment regarding the existence of trash cans. As well, it was note that GVGC could request LA Department of Recreation and Parks to install more trash cans. Without objection, President Myrick called the question. Roll Call Vote: 15 Ayes, 0 Nos, 0 Abstentions, 1 Ineligible (Ashkinadze). Motion passes.

**Note:** Board member Iversen left the meeting. Attendance becomes 15. A Quorum was maintained. Agenda returns to Item #11.

**11. Planning and Land Use Committee (PLUC) – D. Chadwick, Chair**

**A. Committee Report.** No report but Chair D. Chadwick indicated that the 1/27/18 PLUC meeting would discuss, among other things, Walgreens' application to renew its. Conditional Use Permit. This is the Walgreens near the NE corner of Victory Blvd. and Fulton Ave. No Public or Board Comment.

**B. Motions for Board approval.** There were no motions.

**12. Community Outreach Committee – J. Chadwick, Chair**

**A. Committee report.** Chair J. Chadwick asked all Chairs for their future meeting dates and times so she can forward them to the webmaster so they can get on the website calendar. She urged members to follow GVGC on Facebook and that the site continues to be enhanced. J. Chadwick asked the Public and Board members to email her regarding pothole candidates for LA Department of Transportation's Pothole Repair Day on 1/26/18. J. Chadwick also mentioned that she is working on a general flyer for GVGC that can be used for outreach purposes to give stakeholders a one-page summary of what a neighborhood council is and does, and how to get involved in GVGC.. J. Chadwick will send out a draft of the flyer to Board members and interested stakeholders to get some comments. Finally, J. Chadwick reported that she is working on a "news" piece called Year in Review, highlighting what GVGC has accomplished over the last fiscal year.

**B. Motions for Board approval.** There were no motions.

**Note:** Board member Wehrli left the meeting. Attendance becomes 14. A Quorum was maintained.



### **13. Government Relations Committee – W. Hall, Chair**

**A. Committee report.** Chair Hall moved to motions.

#### **B. Motions for Board approval.**

**Motion B.1.** Nearly half of Los Angeles' neighborhood councils are members of the Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance (NCSA). The NCSA Tree Committee is a key player in ongoing efforts to protect, improve and enlarge Los Angeles' urban forest. As such, the Greater Valley Glen Council requests that the NCSA Tree Committee be explicitly added to the stakeholders called out in the motion of November 22, 2017, under CF 03-1459-S3 calling for the strengthening of the Protected Tree Ordinance. Additionally, the GVGC will communicate in writing this request to appropriate City officials and personnel. [CIS not to include the last sentence.] Motion made by Hall. Seconded by James Casey.

Public Comment. None. Board Comment. None. Without objection, President Myrick called the question. Voice Vote. 14 Ayes, 0 Nos, 0 Abstentions, 0 Ineligible. Motion passes.

**Motion B.2.** The Greater Valley Glen Council supports the intent of the proposed Citywide Cat Program and the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report in anticipation of the approval of a program that would Trap, Neuter and Return "free roaming cats," both feral and strays. The GVGC specifically requests that in the scoping of the EIR, the effect of "free roaming cats" on the rodent population be included. The GVGC authorizes that this request be communicated to appropriate LA Department of Animal Services personnel, the Board of Animal Services Commissioners, and Councilmembers Koretz and Blumenfield. Motion made by Hall. Seconded by Myrick.

Public Comment. There was stakeholder comment that indicated that LA County's experience with Trap, Neuter and Return was not satisfactory. The reason given was that it is difficult to capture the entire feral cat population in a given area. LA County has had better results with leaving food out in an open area that, once eaten, causes sterility in the cat population. Board Comment. Chair Hall indicated that the Committee should investigate this matter further. Without objection, Chair Hall withdrew the motion.

**C. DWP representative report.** Chair Hall indicated that there was no report.

**D. City Sustainability representative report.** Board member D'Antonio submitted the attached report.

**E. VANC report.** Board member Barmettler submitted the attached report.

**Note:** The Agenda now moves from Item #13 to Item #15 as Item #14 was taken out of order.

### **15. Arts and Education Committee – L. Wehrli, Chair**

**A. Committee report.** No report. No Public or Board Comments.

**B. Motions for Board approval.** There were no motions.

### **16. Community Safety Committee – C. Ferreyra, Chair**

**A. Committee report.** No report. No Public or Board Comments.

**B. Motions for Board approval.** There were no motions.

**17. Board member comments on items not on agenda.** Board member Pisani commented that it is unfair to other Chairs and the Public that money motions get moved up to the earlier part of the agenda to accommodate Board



members who need to leave early. The goal is to finish all business by 9:00 p.m. but Board members should understand that we may go beyond 9:00 p.m. for reasons that are important to the Public.

**18. President's Motions.**

**A.** Motion 1 for Board approval to establish a GVGC "Bylaws" committee whose mission is to suggest additions and modifications to current GVGC bylaws and bring them to the full GVGC Board for approval. Motion made by Myrick. Seconded by Ferreyra.

Public Comment. None. Board Comment. Ferreyra offered up the concept that the President can set this up as an ad hoc Committee as the purpose may be to consider Bylaw changes that may also include how to mitigate issues that President Myrick brought up in Item # 10. President Myrick agreed and withdrew the motion. President Myrick then announced the establishment of the ad hoc Bylaws Committee with Thomas Newton as Chair, with other Board members to be determined. Members of the Public were encouraged to join. However, none joined at this time. [Secretary's note: if an ad hoc committee is composed exclusively of Board members, then the Brown Act does not need to be adhered to.

**B.** Motion 2 for Board approval of the President's nomination of Thomas Newton to Chair the newly created By-Laws Committee. Without objection, President withdrew this motion indicating his action on Motion 1 above made this matter moot.

**19. Adjournment.** Motion to Adjourn made by Myrick. Seconded by D. Chadwick.

Public Comment. None. Board Comment. None. Without objection, President Myrick called the question. Voice Vote: 14 Ayes, 0 Nos, 0 Nos, 0 Abstentions, 0 Ineligible. Motion passes. Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m. Next Board meeting (unless preceded by any Special Meeting) is February 5, 2018, 7:00p.m., Los Angeles Valley College, Campus Center, Fireside Room. Location and date subject to change.

Submitted January 29, 2018,

Mickey Jannol  
Board Secretary



## Disclosures provided with the Agenda for the January 8, 2018 GVGC Regular Board Meeting:

The public is requested to fill out a "Speaker Card" to address the Board on any item of the agenda prior to the Board acting on an item. Comments from the public on Agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments from the public on other items not appearing on the agenda within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction will be heard during the Public Comment period. Public comment will be limited to two minutes per speaker, unless waived by the Board President. The President reserves the right to further limit public comment time, depending on number of speakers. No person may assign their speaking time to another.

This Agenda is posted for public review: on website [www.greatervalleyglencouncil.org](http://www.greatervalleyglencouncil.org) and at Uncle Tony's Pizzeria, 13007 Victory Blvd., in Valley Glen. Per Title 11 of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate based on disability. Upon request, reasonable accommodation will be provided to ensure equal access to GVGC programs, services and activities. Sign language interpreters, assisted listening devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting EMPOWER LA at (866) 584-3577.

**\*PUBLIC ACCESS OF RECORDS-** In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all the board in advance of a meeting may be viewed at Uncle Tony's Pizzeria, 13007 Victory Blvd Valley Glen, CA 91606, at our website: [www.greatervalleyglencouncil.org](http://www.greatervalleyglencouncil.org) or at a scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact Sloan Myrick, Board President, at (818-442-8924) or email at [smyrick@greatervalleyglencouncil.org](mailto:smyrick@greatervalleyglencouncil.org).

**See the Following Pages for Vote Tally Sheet  
for Board Member Votes and Government Relations  
Committee Reports per Items #13D and 13E.**



01-08-2017									
VOTE TALLY SHEET									
by Agenda item #									
Legend:									
P = Present									
Y = Aye or Yes									
N = No									
A = Abstain									
I = Present but Ineligible to Vote									
R = Recused									
■ = Absent, or not yet seated									
Board Member Roll Call for:									
	Roll Call 1	Minutes 4	Treasurer 5A	Treasurer 5B	Treasurer 5C	Parks 14B.1 (out of order)	Parks 14B.3 (out of order)	Gov't Relations 13B.1	Adjournment 18
Michael Ashkinadze	P	Y	I	I	I	I	I	Y	Y
Joseph Barmettler									
James Casey	P	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Julie Casey									
Douglas Chadwick	P	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Jean Chadwick	P	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Joanne D'Antonio	P	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Carlos Ferreyra	P	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
September Forsyth									
Stanley Friedman	P	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Walter Hall	P	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Derek Iversen	P	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		
Mickey Jannol	P	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Malky Kertis	P	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Sloan Myrick	P	Y	Y	A	A	Y	Y	Y	Y
Thomas Newton	P	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Rich Pisani	P	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Dorothea Sargent	P	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Linda Wehrli	P	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		
<b>Present</b>	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	14	14
<b>Yes</b>		12	14	14	14	15	15	14	14
<b>No</b>		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Abstentions</b>		4	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
<b>Ineligible</b>		0	1	1	1	1	1	0	0
<b>Recused</b>		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Sum of Yes and No Votes</b>		12	14	14	14	15	15	14	14
<b>Required Yes Votes to Pass</b>	N/A	7	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
<b>Pass/Fail</b>	N/A	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass
<b>Quorum Count</b>	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	14	14



## **Item # 13E. Sustainability Report**

### **Community Forestry Advisory Committee 1-4-'18 at City Hall**

Urban Forestry reported there are not enough qualified candidates to expand their staff and they lack equipment, especially trucks. They have had more requests for sidewalk repair and acceptances of the offered rebate since it was substantially raised. Whole blocks of trees are being slated for removal. They are also backlogged with ADA requests. UFD is not keeping count of how many trees are removed. UFD has a new list of approved trees for street tree planting, and it is on their website. [2-1-'18 update: UFD reported at CFAC that they do have counts and records of tree removals but did not have the figures with them.]

The Mayor's Office Representative reported that a street tree location inventory is nearly complete and will be on the Navigate LA website soon.

City Budget meetings have begun, and now is the time to request money for tree canopy preservation.

Elizabeth Skrzat unveiled a plan to hire a consultant this month to begin the process to have a strategic plan for the Urban Forest. Unlike most cities like San Francisco, Seattle, New York, etc., Los Angeles has never had a Master Tree Plan with an environmental tree expert in charge. UFD is under Street Services and is liability-driven. In New York there is systematic enforcement of their tree policy.

Joanne D'Antonio, Chair of the NCSA Trees Committee reported on her successful intervention to prevent the liquidambar trees on Woodman near Chandler from being topped and over-pruned.

### **NCSA Trees Committee 12-13-'17 via Teleconference**

The NCSA represents nearly half the Neighborhood Councils and as such, its Trees Committee is requesting to be added to the stakeholders to participate in the meetings described in the motion of November 22, 2017, under CF 03-1459-S3 for the purpose of strengthening the Protected Tree Ordinance.

The NCSA Trees Committee will seek VANC make a motion to request the City give residents advance notification of tree trimming. The Trees Committee plans to request time to give a presentation at VANC.

### **Community Forestry Advisory Committee 12-7-'17 at City Hall**

Trees are absent from the Mayor's Sustainability Plan. Trees are being removed for widening of streets, and no trees are planted after the work is done. Trees are not being recognized for their ability to mitigate heat island effect. Developers consider protected trees on the property at the end of the permitting process instead of at the start of planning development – this results in plan re-thinking when objections are raised or cutting the protected trees and paying the fines if there is no challenge. CFAC members are starting to have meetings with City Council officials to bring issues regarding trees to their attention.

**Joanne D'Antonio, GVGC Sustainability Liaison**



## **Item #13E. NOTES FROM VANC MEETING ON 12/14/17**

### **Joseph Barmettler, GVGC Government Relations Committee**

Sherman Oaks Hospital, Dr. Conference Room  
6:30 - 10:30 PM. VANC President presiding: Jill Banks Barad

#### **SUMMARY HIGHLIGHTS:**

**ITEM 1:** LADWP Equity Metrics Data Initiative.

**ITEM 2:** City Attorney Elyse A. Ruden. Questions and concerns for the City Attorney.

**ITEM 3:** DONE report. Seme Park DONE rep.

**ITEM 4:** L.A. City Admin Office, survey update.

**ITEM 5:** VANC Mixer "Best Of" Award Nominations.

**ITEM 6:** Animal Welfare Report: Motion for VANC to write letter re: feral cat ordinance.

**ITEM 7:** Upcoming event: SFV Town Hall on Homelessness at LAVC 1/18/18.

**ITEM 8:** Glen Bailey File #s:

#### **ITEM 1: LADWP Equity Metrics Data Initiative.**

Neil Gulielmo, CFO, John Chen Director of Corporate performance and Jason Stinnett Community Relations. They were joined by Bill Funderburk, DWP Commissioner. LADWP has the highest credit rating for a municipal power company. Discuss regarding the LADWP initiative to serve everybody and to recruit women to non-traditional jobs. Discussions entailed how underserved women are at LADWP. Discussions by panel regarding LADWP work force and gender diversity. Women are 22% of workforce. New targeted recruitment initiatives to increase female and minority candidates for Engineering Associate and 8 critical craft classifications. 40% of LADWP employees will be eligible to retire in 3-4 years, so they are actively recruiting. Additionally, discussions and comment involving a power point presentation covering Home Energy Improvement Program (HEIP) which offers free energy efficient upgrades for residential customers; Consumer Rebate Program applications, and LADWP Educational Attainment in Los Angeles. Improvement measures available through HEIP program are offered at no cost to participating residential customers. HEIP is designed to assist residential customers in making homes energy efficient by installing measures such as LED's, weather stripping, caulking, low flow showerheads and faucet aerators. Program starts with assessment of the interior of home. Skilled repair technicians will subsequently complete installation of upgrades. Participate by filling out the applications and submitting to LADWP. Toll free number 888-822-8497 or email [heip@ladwp.com](mailto:heip@ladwp.com). A power point hand out for LADWP's "Ensuring Transparency, Accountability and Equity" was presented. LADWP Corporate performance can be viewed at [www.ladwp.com/corporateperformance](http://www.ladwp.com/corporateperformance). LADWP Equity Metrics can be viewed at [www.ladwp.com/equitymetrics](http://www.ladwp.com/equitymetrics).

Regarding employment recruitment, LADWP consults with LAPD, LAFD and other utilities on recruitment best practices. They are expanding military outreach and recruitment. LADWP is developing formal mentorship programs. They partner with outside organization to develop training programs to support outreach and recruitment efforts (LAUSD High School Career Day) to include Management / Leadership training. LADWP funds L.A. City for job recruitment. VANC member comment, asked them to put job posts on the DWP website, right now they post on L.A. city website, and users are confused or do not have access to job listing due to lack of information.



Neil Gulielmo stated that LADWP is very open to comments/suggestions for changes and improvements. They target changes using metrics. Neil encourages NCs to contact him and schedule an LADWP Initiative presentation for each NC Council board interested in having LADWP speak at a board meeting. Contact him directly at: Neil Gulielmo, CFO LADWP, [neil.gulielmo@ladwp.com](mailto:neil.gulielmo@ladwp.com) (213) 359-1269.

**ITEM 2: City Attorney Elyse A. Ruden:** Questions and concerns for the City Attorney.

Elyse works with DONE closely to inform the NCs. She encourages NCs to call her (via Seme Park) with questions. Right now she is looking at adopting language for more specificity and consistency for NCs. She wants individual NC voices as well, working toward balance or a template for bylaws. She receives many Brown Act questions and complaints. She investigates complaints for Brown Act. NCs should designate a legal liaison if the President cannot be present when needed.

Public Records Act - helps assist with information to request records. Forward her your requests (via Seme Park at DONE) and she will try to help. She gets most of the Land Use Committee questions. Does not encourage private meetings with developers. She does seek the Attorney General's opinion on issues when she can.

Discussion about NCs giving public funds to charity or individuals or groups. Each case is different. Contact info: Elise A. Ruden: Office of the City Attorney, Deputy City Attorney, Neighborhood Council, General Counsel Division. City Hall East, 200 N. Main Street, Room 700, Los Angeles, CA 90012 (213) 978-8130. Website: [www.atty.lacity.org](http://www.atty.lacity.org). Email: [elise.ruden@lacity.org](mailto:elise.ruden@lacity.org)

**ITEM 3: DONE report:**

Seme Park, DONE rep present. Gracie Liu not present.

Discussions regarding four NCs rep re-assignments, list handed out.

Subdivision Applications due 1/15/18. Bylaw Amendments due 4/15/18.

Seme Invites all NCs to encourage young women to participate in IgniteLA, a program for young women that build civics knowledge and leadership skills to bolster civic engagement. IgniteLA is a non-partisan program whose mission is to empower every young woman interested in public service with the political and practical skills she needs to be a successful civic leader. Some discussions from NC remaining NC reps questioning why this program is just for "women", thus not presenting a fair and equal approach, as civic practices mandate.

Action Item: DONE is conducting inventory on all NC's, that is reported to City Clerk. NC's must generate an inventory list (anything purchased with NC funds) and submit to DONE. DONE will then need to physically authorize inventory.

BONC Ad hoc Committee formed (Shaffer, Litman & Adkinson) to gather input from NCs for input for the definition of "stakeholders." City Council voted that community stakeholder definitions approved "substantial and ongoing". DEADLINE for NC input is 2/15/17 and should be voted on in following board meetings if NC participates. Council file #: 12-1681-S1. Send correspondence to: [commission@empowerla.org](mailto:commission@empowerla.org).



#### **ITEM 4: City Admin. Office:**

Lila (could not get last name) gave speedy update on street related infrastructure opportunities for improvement regarding a survey they conducted to acquire baseline data from NCs and other groups (400 individuals surveyed). Survey was weighted proportional to the City of LA. CF 17-1311. Six questions rate most common, services were scored and compiled.

Lowest scores included: sidewalk repair, weed abatement and tree trimming.

#### **ITEM 5: VANC Mixer "Best Of" Award Nominations:**

VANC will have a March Mixer in March 2018 to be held at CBS Radford Studios and is asking for "Best Of" award nominations. Nomination deadline is 2/1/17 (approximately).

Nominees do not have to be from an NC, no set categories, open to everything. VANC looks at nominations and adjusts award accordingly. How to nominate: Write 1 page on project, event, person(s), organization, etc., and tell us what was extraordinary. Include contact name of nominating person, photos of what it is. No nomination is too small or too large.

#### **ITEM 6: Animal Welfare Report:**

Motion made by Jeffrey Mausner for VANC to write letter (example provided and voted on) directing city departments to prepare an EIR to allow reconsideration of a proposed citywide Cat Program that applies to all "free roaming cats" including feral cats and stray cats, utilizing the Project Description as detailed in the April 11, 2017 Dept. of Animal Services (DAS) report. VANC supports Trap, Neuter, Return as the humane way to deal with free roaming cats, rather than mass extermination. VANC requests that the EIR include consideration of the morality of the program utilizing trap Neuter Return as opposed to alternative mass extermination of free roaming cats.

VANC reps (remaining quorum) voted YES for the motion, with 2 abstains.

#### **ITEM 7: (via flyer) SFV Town Hall on Homelessness:**

Sponsored by Paul Krekorian (open to public). Informative town hall event to answer your questions and discuss what's being done to end homelessness in our city. Panelists include: Councilmember Paul Krekorian, LAPD, LA Sanitation, LA Homeless Services Authority, LA Family Housing, LA City Attorney's Office, LA Rise. When: Thursday Jan 18, 2018 6:30 PM.  
Where: LAVC Monarch hall, 5800 Fulton Ave., Valley Glen, CA 91401

#### **ITEM 8: Glen Bailey File #s:**

- 1.) Libraries - Security and safety: 17-0036-S1
- 2.) Porn restrictions on library computers: 09-2564-S1
- 3.) Waste hauling RecycleLA, Billing, removal concerns: 07-0878-S1
- 4.) Group Homes, Sober Living regulatory opportunities: 17-1426

**END OF NOTES**