



- Committee Chair -  
Sloan Myrick  
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City of Los Angeles  
**GREATER VALLEY GLEN COUNCIL**  
13659 Victory Blvd., #136  
Valley Glen, CA 91401  
[www.greatervalleyglencouncil.org](http://www.greatervalleyglencouncil.org)

- Committee Members -  
Joanne D'Antonio  
Mickey Jannol  
Karen Klaparda  
Charles Samson  
Arline Simon

## **Parks & Improvements Committee MINUTES**

**6:00 PM**

**Tuesday, 1 July 2014**

**Laurence School**

**6456 Woodman Ave., Valley Glen, CA 91401**

1. Call to Order and Roll Call:  
*SMyrick, CSamson, KKlaparda, MJannol, JD'Antonio present. ASimon present. A quorum was achieved.*
2. General Public Comments. There were no public comments.
3. Board Member Comments. There were no Board Member comments.
4. Pet Waste Bags status. Board President Carlos Ferreyra to speak about delay. Carlos indicated a delay in payment to the vendor due to a change in payment procedures by DONE. Effective July 1, payments will be made by e-check. However, to do that, Carlos indicated the full Board needs to adopt the procedures so we can start implementing the e-check program. Until the vendor is paid, the needed waste bags will not arrive.
  - A. Motion: None.
  - B. Public comment: None
  - C. Committee member comment. Member Klaparda indicated the anti-graffiti paint on the pet waste stations is working and asked that LA Rec. and Parks maintenance staff recognizes that the use of the anti-graffiti paint on Park equipment is designed such that removing it with a cleaner is more productive than painting over it.
5. Discuss any issues that may have arisen regarding the first Best Landscape of Month process including purchasing a small plaque or something that winners can keep.
  - A. Motion: Member D'Antonio moved to abandon the program. Member Simon seconded the motion.
  - B. Public comment: None.
  - C. Committee member comment: Discussion included the need to better publicize the program on the website. There was further discussion about the ability to find enough drought tolerant lawns to accommodate a monthly award program in each Area. Members discussed the original intent of the program and that focus was not strictly on drought tolerant lawns but also included business and apartment landscaping.
  - D. Call for Vote on Motion: Members voting in favor: D'Antonio and Simon. Members voting against the motion: Jannol, Myrick, Samson and Klaparda. The motion fails 2 to 4 and the monthly program will continue.
    - A. Motion: Chair Myrick moved to investigate expenditure of Board funds to give out small plaques to monthly winners. Member Jannol seconded the motion.
    - B. Public comment: None.
    - C. Committee member comment: Members discussed the need and value of plaques as a permanent means of being a monthly winner. Members would like to move forward to get cost estimates of these plaques and then present a more detailed motion at a subsequent Committee meeting.
    - D. Call for Vote on Motion: "In order to promote community pride and spirit, the committee will explore the possibility of issuing a small plaque/'leave behind' memento to be given to Best Landscape Winners".

Members voting in favor: Jannol, Myrick, Simon and Klaparda. Members voting against the motion: D'Antonio. Members abstaining: Samson. The motion passes 4 to 1 to 1. Chair Myrick will. Investigate the plaque idea and get cost information.

6. Discuss Victory Blvd median project. We have a bid to clean up between Babcock and Goodland.

A. Motion: None

B. Public comment: None

C. Committee member comment: Chair Myrick presented a bid to clean up the northern medians which included removing weeds and leveling the medians. Cost was \$6,500. While the bid appears to be comprehensive and calls for the tasks needed to restore the median, the unanimous consensus was to get another or multiple bids. Nikki to be contacted on next steps.

7. Discuss status of Valley Glen Community Park's 'reconditioning' and surveying nearby residents of their opinion about volleyball + extra watering. Also, DWP's 20% turf reduction proposal.

A. Motion: None

B. Public comment: None

C. Committee member comment: Chair Myrick updated the Committee about a May 2014 meeting held between Members Myrick, Samson and Jannol and Peggy Kelly, Superintendent of LA City Rec. and Parks Dept. It was indicated to Peggy that the Park grass is not receiving water. Peggy acknowledged some problems with sprinklers and showed us on-site maintenance staff in process of repairing sprinkler heads. She indicated that the Park could only be watered for 20 minutes three times a week but agreed to see how to get the Park more water.

Peggy offered up an idea to make the Park a multi-sports Park by creating one more sport for the Park in addition to baseball/softball, Peggy represented that multi-sport Parks receive water every day per Park policy. The discussion turned to low-impact sports like volleyball. The Parks Dept. would erect the poles and net and use wooden borders along the grass to make out the volleyball boundaries. A possible location was the center of the Park 250-300 feet south of the backstop along the right field line. Chair to speak to Peggy Kelly about getting some sort of diagram of proposed volleyball court.

Subsequent to the meeting, Nikki Ezhari of Councilmember Krekorian's Office offered up some additional suggestions. These entailed ideas about 20% turf reduction for sprinklers program ideas; notable another non-grass pathway.

There was further discussion about creating an arc-type homerun line for the softball/baseball field.

In the final case, while there was interest in surveying the community about the desire for low-impact sports in exchange for more water, the unanimous consensus was for the Chair to go back to Parks Dept. and Nikki to nail down specific proposals and commitments. It was further suggested that monthly meetings with Peggy Kelly should occur along with a meeting with the Park Dept. General Manager.

Member Simon indicated the need for Laurel Grove to obtain more frequent watering and Chair Myrick agreed to bring that item up to Peggy.

8. Discuss Movie Night at the Community Park some summer evening.

A. Motion: Motion: By Member Samson as follows: To promote the sense of community and enjoyment within the Greater Valley Glen Community Park, the Greater Valley Glen Council Board supports a plan to sponsor a "Movie Night" in the Park in conjunction with LA Council District 2 Paul Krekorian's office on a Sunday in late August, and requests: 1) \$100 for movie projector set up and take down; 2) \$200 towards the purchase of snacks and/or drinks to be handed out to the park movie-goers. Details of the location of the movie in the park will be worked out in advance with CD 2. Motion was seconded by Member Jannol.

B. Public comment: None

C. Committee member comment: Chair Myrick clarified the cost of the film (or use of it) will be borne by the Councilmember's Office. Further comment centered on the fact that Nikki Ezhari has been promoting this activity as it has met with success at other parks and will promote family use of the Park.

D. Call for Vote on Motion: Members voting in favor: Jannol, Myrick, Simon and Klaparda. Members voting against the motion: None. Member D'Antonio had already departed to another meeting and no longer was present.

9. Adjournment. Motion made to adjourn by Member Samson and seconded by Member Jannol. Members voting in favor: Jannol, Myrick, Simon and Klaparda. Members voting against the motion: None. Meeting adjourned 7:00 p.m.