

SCNC BOARD

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Ben Di Benedetto
Joshua Gelfat
Victor Helo
Wayne Kartin
Remy Kessler
Ben Neumann
Richard Niederberg
Todd Royal
Lisa Sarkin
Lana Shackelford
Gail Steinberg
Ron Taylor
Rita Villa
John T. Walker



BOARD MEETING FINAL MINUTES

Wednesday, February 16, 2011,
7:00pm
at

**CBS Studio Center, Building 8, MPR-3,
4024 Radford, Studio City CA, 91604**

PRESIDENT
John T. Walker

VICE PRESIDENT
TODD ROYAL

TREASURER
Remy Kessler

SECRETARY
Rita C. Villa

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY
Lana Shackelford

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The public is requested to fill out a "Comment Card" to address the Board on any item of the agenda prior to the Board taking action 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 matters not appearing on the Agenda that is within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction will be heard during the Public Comment period. **Public comment is limited to two minutes per speaker, unless directed otherwise by the presiding officer of the Board.** The agenda is posted for public review at: Studio City Neighborhood Council website (www.scnc.info); as well as CBS Studio Center, Radford and Colfax gates; the Studio City Library, 12511 Moorpark St.; the Studio City Recreation Center, 12621 Rye Ave. and at Carpenter Avenue Elementary School, 3909 Carpenter Avenue, Studio City, CA 91604. As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities. Sign language interpreters, assistive 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 three (3) business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting the Neighborhood Council Project Coordinator (213) 473-5391 or by e-mail to Thomas.Soong@lacity.org. In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the Board in advance of a meeting, may be viewed at our website by clicking on the following link: www.scnc.info or at the scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact office@scnc.info.

Agenda

1. Call to Order & Roll Call. Jeffrey Carter – present, Ben Di Benedetto – present; Josh Gelfat – present, Victor Helo - present, Wayne Kartin – present, Remy Kessler - present, Ben Neumann present, Richard Niederberg - present, Todd Royal - present, Lisa Sarkin - present, Lana Shackelford – present, Gail Steinberg – present, Ron Taylor – excused, Rita Villa –present, John Walker – present. 13 voting members; 66 stakeholders present.
2. Approval of November 17, 2010 and January 19, 2011 Minutes. Approval of November 17, 2010 minutes of board meetings. **Moved:** Richard Niederberg; **Second:** Todd Royal; **Vote:** 13:0:0 **Motion Carries.** Approval of January 19, 2011 minutes of board meetings. **Moved:** Richard Niederberg; **Second:** Todd Royal; **Vote:** 13:0:0 **Motion Carries.**
3. Comments by the President. **John Walker** announced that Councilman Koretz was running late and introduced Officer Mike Lewis.
4. Introduction of Senior Lead Officer for Studio City, Mike Lewis. **Officer Lewis** reported on the problems that have taken place at the property on the 4300 block of Laurel Grove that has been vacant for many years. He further reported that the Building and Safety Commission heard testimony on the matter and voted to bulldoze the house. Although he is not certain when that will take place he hopes that it will happen soon. **Officer Lewis** indicated that he has started an email list that reaches 600 people. He uses the list to email people when there is something happening in the area that he wants the community to know. This information dissemination process is a two edge sword. People have more information about what is going on and are more afraid even though crime is actually down. His goal is to reduce the fear and the incidence of crime. People in the area are afraid of crime, however, crimes in Studio City and in LA are at historic lows. In January there were 42 crimes of the type he tracks and the numbers were triple that 5 or 6 years ago for those same categories of crime. He does not want people to be paranoid. This is the safest time in Studio City that there has been in 50 years.

He reviewed the crime statistic information he distributed. He reported that we have more property crimes in Studio City than in any of the other 8 areas in the division. Most homes are broken into in the middle of the day. If someone knocks on your door during the day, answer the door. If there is no answer criminals break in by going through the back yard. Do not keep the jewelry in the bedroom. Expensive pieces should be kept elsewhere. Neighborhood Watch works. Call him if you see something unusual. Although 20 cars were broken into in January 2011 in Studio City. In 2005 there were 59 cars broken into. It is extremely safe in Studio City. **Remy Kessler** asked if there is any pattern in the Dona's related to the DWP distraction burglaries. **Officer Lewis** responded that Elder distraction crimes are about two a month. **Jeff Carter** asked why crimes are low. **Officer Lewis** said we are experiencing 40 year lows across the country because of the three strikes law and we have build 15 prisons and doubled the number of people in prison. He also indicated that there is a study that indicates that the 1973 Row v Wade decision may have had an impact as crime started dropping after that in 1991 through 1999. **Victor Helo** thanked **Officer Lewis** for being here. He asked if officers will be laid off because of crime being down. **Officer Lewis** said he did not know.

5. Introduction of City Councilman Paul Koretz. . **Councilman Koretz** thanked John for arranging for him to be here. He also thanked Officer Lewis for working closely with his office and the community to keep us safe. He then introduced his staff. **Councilman Koretz** explained that the City's budget is a disaster. The first budget he voted on after taking office was passed as balanced but implicit in it was the fact that cuts would be required to get there. The City now has 400,000 fewer general funded positions than when he started. The City needs to determine what the core services are that the City should fund. The City has eliminated child care in the parks, we don't trim trees unless it is an emergency. Many workers have been subjected to furlough. The City Council thought that parking garages could be leased and that would bring in revenue and solve the budget problem. Bidders objected to constraints on the rates they could charge. Rate constraints were needed because for the Westwood parking garage the only thing that keeps the Westwood shopping area competitive is the two hours of free parking. That garage is almost always full. This lease arrangement is now off the table. The Council has decided to keep the structures under city control and try to manage them better. The Council is looking at what can be done with CRA money. They are considering using it to pay off debt service on CRA parking structures. **Councilman Koretz** indicated that he is Chair of the Audit Committee for the City. One thing the city does poorly is collections. There is no accountability. They are considering creating an inspector general to ride the departments to insure collections and hold department heads accountable for revenue collections. Commission on Revenue Enhancement has come up with 65 recommendations. If all of them were implemented there would be a \$100 million savings. There would be no negative repercussions from implementing these recommendations. The Council has asked City Contractors to take a 10% voluntary cutback. Some did this and some only did 5% or none at all. This provided a few million dollars of savings. He has been spending most of his time on this for the last year and a half. He thinks the City will get through this budget problem in two or three years. **Councilman Koretz** stated that the Baseline Hillside Ordinance will come through soon. He and his staff have done the lion's share of the work to make this happen. He hopes that it will come through by next week. There should be a motion to approve the extension to the Baseline Mansionization Ordinance and one to make it permanent by next week. With respect to medical marijuana there have been lawsuits that have come before Judge Moor. He threw out many of them. There can now be a minimum of 70 and max of 100 dispensaries. Many of them were in his district. He favors access for patients that need it but 73 in his area is many more than what is needed for adequate access. The newer ones are not legal. If you see a new dispensary, call his office and talk to his deputy Chris Koontz. You can also call (213) 987-4090 to report unauthorized dispensaries. He has worked hard trying to preserve open space at Mulholland and

Laurel Canyon. The property has been saved temporarily pending adequate fundraising. He has initiated a moratorium on putting billboard advertisements in City Parks. With regard to the upcoming election and ballot initiatives – tax measures will help with the budget shortfall he supports Prop O – tax on oil co’s drilling in the City. He endorses Measure G which reduces pension health care costs for police and fire. They have negotiated with Police and Fire Unions and there is no opposition from them. Proposition L – priority funding for libraries but no new sources of funds to pay for this so other services will have to be cut. He is not for or against this. He supports Measure M – medical marijuana tax revenue from this would help fund other services. The latest budget shortfall will cause furloughing of police. Oakland estimates this tax will bring in \$1.5 million and that amount would be a greater in LA. **Councilman Koretz** thanked the NC for getting up the signs to identify the entry points to Studio City and for supporting the Republic Pictures 75th Anniversary event. He also thanked SCNC for the work done on the Universal Evolution DEIR response. He wants to see that project scaled back. Its impact will be beyond the 4th district so surrounding council districts must give input as well. **Board Comments: Remy Kessler** thanked him for coming to meeting. He asked for his thoughts about the City filing for bankruptcy? **Councilman Koretz** responded that is not a good option because bankruptcy is a danger. We would be putting our fate in the hands of the judge. One city that did that never changed their labor agreements and it cost them a fortune. **Public Comment: Alex Lzbiki** – Stated he is a native of the San Fernando Valley. There has been deterioration in our neighborhoods. There is deterioration in our schools, streets and infrastructure. He wants a city he can live in and enjoy. Can we cut city employees pay/benefits to balance everything so we can keep up our infrastructure and other services? **Response** – we can negotiate on future employees pay and benefits only. We have gotten givebacks of salaries and benefits from the unions already. He feels that everyone in City Hall should take a 10% across the board cut. If that doesn’t happen we have more furloughs and layoffs. Most of the budget is salary cost. There are now 26 furlough days for city employees. **Todd Royal** said that he read that in the next 5 to 10 years pension to healthcare cost will be \$30 million dollars. He would like to know why they do not bring down City employee salary and benefits to public sector levels. **Response** – We need to keep good people. **Richard Adams** asked: Do you support the RFA and will you help Krekorian get it passed? **Response** – he does support it and hopes Krekorian does as well. **Wayne Kartin** asked why additional he supports the additional bureaucracy that would result from having an inspector general. **Response** – The City Controller can’t make collections happen. That needs to have mayoral backing. He thinks this position will create tens of millions of dollars in savings. **Arlene Samek** commended the Councilman for taking the 10% cut in his pay and asked how many other councilmen have done that. **Response** – Most council members have taken between a 5% and 10% cut. No one is taking a pension cut. He drives his own car. **Richard Niederberg** said when it comes to billboards and advertising in the parks, outfield fences have advertising. **Response** – The park tables, trash cans and billboards is what is being prevented. **Councilman Koretz** closed by saying, if you want to talk to him he has Thursday office hours. He alternates where he holds those office hours, one week in the valley and the other downtown.

6. Public Comments on non-agenda items within the Boards jurisdiction (2 min. each speaker).

Roy Stone asked for support for measure L. If we don’t pass this there will be library cutbacks. It is life and death for the libraries. Ask people to support Measure L. **Teri Markson** said she is a city librarian asking for support for measure L. People are applying for jobs using the library and the internet service there. Please vote for L. **Frank Whiteman** said he lives at 4203 Bluebell Ave. He objected to the SCNC’s endorsement of a live entertainment venue, Mare’ka restaurant. There is a lot of ill feeling about the process. The NC is reducing the rights of property owners. The flyers have not been effective. He criticized Scott Ouellette for his support of the project. **Scott Ouellette** said there was no problem with the noise. **Karen Pickard-Fair** said she is a librarian. She thanked us for doing

what we do. She cares about the community and libraries provide a vital service. Please use our judgment to keep the libraries open. Our city deserves this service. Please support measure L. Vote yes. **Ben Forat** said he is requesting removal of Lisa Sarkin. He has 72 petitions and says that she has misrepresented the board. He wanted to subdivide his lot into 4 and he got permission from neighbors. He suffered major financial losses because of Lisa's actions. John Walker received the petitions and said he would have copies made for the board members., **Judy Price** said she does not know how many times we must be subjected to petitions from Ben Farat. He falsely represented the situation and she knows business men that were asked to sign the petition so he can keep his mural. The mural is illegal. Ben failed to get an exception to the specific plan. The City council's hands are tied because **Ben Forat** did not appeal the decision of the City Planning Commission. **Jane Drucker** agrees that the attacks on Lisa have to stop. The SCNC bylaws are being reviewed. His requests for removal of Lisa do not comply with the bylaws requirement for requesting removal of a board member. Any board member could be subject to similar attacks. Lisa knows more than anyone else about land use issues. We need to adhere to the bylaws and support each other and not make things up when you don't like a decision. **Barry Johnson** said this vendetta against Lisa needs to end. Mr. Forat broke the law. To this day he is continuing to break the law. He was granted forgiveness for breaking the law with his Corvette sign. The City Attorney is investigating this and it has been also been moved to the Federal level. On the smoothie bar, **Barry Johnson** stated that he was at the hearing and spoke against the entertainment. Additionally, he personally flyer that man's street **Bill Harmond** said that he finds Lisa civic minded and hard working. We must support each other against attacks on a fellow board member. **Richard Adams** said with respect to opening your door when someone knocks during the day, be sure to let the person know that someone is home. April 10th there will be a public safety fair across from Valley College. He requested that the SCNC put the flyer up on our website. **Kris From** spoke about Survey LA and the identification of properties of interest built between 1825 and 1980. She asked the board to allow her to share the information with our email list. **Stu Miller** said he doesn't take any pleasure in this. He is stressed by inappropriate attacks by Forat on Lisa Sarkin. He hopes we will put this to rest forever. It is ridiculous to single out one board member as having control of the City's decision. The board is only advisory. Enough is enough. Support your fellow board member and stop these assaults. **Scott Ouellette** said Stu Miller and Judy Price were not correct. He feels there needs to be change. With respect to Marika restaurant the system is broken and we need to acknowledge that. He also said he would have gotten more petitions to remove Lisa Sarkin. **Lisa Cahan Davis** said she has set up a Facebook fan page for the SCNC. On March 6th there will be a SCNC booth at the Farmers market. **Jay Beeber** is with the Sherman Oaks NC and he advised us that on the photo red light program the city loses over \$1 million a year. This program does not make the intersections safer. The Sherman Oaks NC does not support the new contract for the photo red light program. Up to 97 % of the tickets given under the photo red light program are for rolling right turns and these do not lead to accidents. **Barbra Monahan Burke** said she is well informed and knows that Ben Forat misrepresented the facts regarding this land use issue. This continued attack on Lisa is mean spirited and not founded on any truth.

7. Responses to comments from the Board. **Jeff Carter** said that with respect to the library it is very important. We must support this measure. **Jeff Carter** said he and Lisa have had their moments but no one works harder than Lisa Sarkin. He hopes we can get this done quickly and that will be the end of it. He thanked Lisa for all her work and said he wants this to be put to rest. **Ben Forat** made an inappropriate outburst expressing disgust and when approached by Officer Lewis left the room. **Lana Shackelford** said in a few quick seconds she has had to look at the information handed out by Mr. Forat, she is annoyed by the fact that this is a vendetta against Lisa by Ben Forat. **Richard Niederberg** disagreed with the speaker on photo enforcement issue. He feels the system is valid.

Lana Shackelford has the list of conditions sent on Mare'ka restaurant. One of the conditions was that there was to be no music heard beyond the property lines.

8. Treasurer's report by **Remy Kessler**. **John Walker** read the motions.

MOTION: The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council has reviewed the February, 2011 financial statements and November & December 2010 and January 2011 bank statements and hereby accepts and approves them. Vote 13:0:0. Motion Carries.

MOTION: The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council approves a transfer of \$7,000 from the 2010-2011 Neighborhood Improvement budget to the Operational Expenses budget. Vote: 13:0:0. Motion Carries.

Public Comment: Jeff Carter said that we should order Pizza from another vender besides Vitellos. **Barry Johnson** said that with respect to ordering Pizza, for many years we used someone at Coldwater and Riverside, **Jeff Carter** made a further comment that we should try to spread around the pizza business as we are spending much money at Vitellos. **Remy Kessler** said there will be no change because we get a great deal and we have ease of payment with that vendor.

9. Budget Committee Report by **Remy Kessler** for Mark Batterman. **Remy Kessler** reported that the Principal of Carpenter and a representative of the PTA came to make a presentation to the budget committee. The Committee decided that we want to encourage schools to be in the forefront of disaster preparedness. Parents of carpenter raise many thousands of dollars and will submit proof that they have raised matching funds for disaster preparedness equipment. **John Walker** read the motion.

MOTION: The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council approves a funding request from the Carpenter Community Charter, a Studio City public school, to fund up to \$486 towards the purchase of two (2) Kenwood walkie-talkies to upgrade their emergency response kits for their students' safety with the following conditions: 1) Carpenter School parents through donation will match or better the grant and the school will provide documentation of such to the SCNC Treasurer's satisfaction. 2) The SCNC receives appropriate credit along with any other participating organizations.

Public Comments:

Marilyn White-Sedel asked that we please support this. The principal needs the walkie-talkies as a result of the things that have been going on in the schools such as the shooting incident in the west valley. Carpenter is prepared for any disaster. This will be the only request for funds for this school for this year. She will come back with a request from Walter Reed and Rio Vista. **Barry Johnson** wants clarification on the motion. They don't get the money until we see their money for at least \$486. **Richard Niederberg** said this is an outrageous price for one walkie-talkie. He said they have to over pay because they have to be purchased from central stores. **Vote: 13:0:0. Motion Carries.**

10. VANC Report by **Arlene Samek**. **Arlene Samek** suggested that we all take the budget survey. LaBudgetChallenge.LACity.org is the site to take the LA Budget Survey. March 10th VANC will hold an Event and best practices will be discussed please try to attend. There will be a roll call for all NC's in the Valley. With respect to the NC's City Parking Pass we must submit the name and license plate number of three board members that will be the users of the pass. She reported on the NC Peer mentoring program and said that anyone interested in participating should let her know. As of now the

City Clerk will be running the next elections. Asked that all members take the ethics course within 60 days. Done can remove a board member that will not take the course. **Barry Johnson** said he thinks the parking pass regulation is silly. **John Walker** said he has submitted a letter objecting to this process as it is over regulation.

11. Urban Water Report by **Victor Helo**. **Victor Helo** reported on the purpose of the recycled water program. They are trying to get the feedback to the City from the Stakeholders on this program. Serge Haddad gave a report on the program. He gave a power point presentation.

Public Comments:

Barbara Monahan Burke asked about the difference between recycled and reclaimed water. **Serge** said they are the same. He also said there are objections to use of sludge to fertilize the ground. Residents voted to prevent future dumping of sewage sludge in Kern County.

12. Land Use Committee Report by **Lisa Sarkin**. **Lisa Sarkin** reported on the Take A Bao Restaurant land use application. She stated that the Kung Pow Bistro is in that location now. There are 23 conditions that have been agreed to by the applicant. After 100 flyers were distributed to the immediate neighborhood only one person came to the meeting. There is no dancing and no entertainment but the applicant is requesting a full liquor license. The property is in the enterprise zone per a CD2 representative. That is a state issue. They get reduced parking in an enterprise zone. The enterprise zone has creped over from Vineland to Carpenter. It is only on the south side of Ventura Blvd. The purpose of an enterprise zone is to bring more employment into an area. The LUC used the best practices to ask for volunteered conditions that are added in by the planners. We are only required to post agendas and not flyer the areas. The LUC does the best it can. The City sends out hearing notices to the 500 foot radius. We represent not only the residences but also the businesses. A representative of the applicant spoke briefly and mentioned that the site is in a State Enterprise Zone. **Barry Johnson** would like clarification on this being in a State Enterprise Zone. He also said that the LUC pains takingly developed the conditions that have been accepted by the applicant. Several people flyered this neighborhood. If you show up after the fact to complain it is too bad. **Scott Ouellette** said the rights of people need to be respected. He has no problem with the conditions, but said they should be split between what is required and what is voluntary. He stated that developers would ignore the volunteered conditions. **Barbara Monahan Burke** said that the Governor does not want enterprise zones and she does not want reductions in the parking requirements. **John Walker** read the motion.

MOTION: The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council supports 'Take A Bao' restaurant, 11838 Ventura Blvd., Studio City [ZA-2010-3193-CUB] with the Amended Applicant Volunteered Conditions dated February 9, 2011. Vote 13:0:0. Motion Carries.

13. Government Affairs Committee Report by **Barbara Monahan Burke**. **Barbara Monahan Burke** reported on attending the Van Nuys forum of the 12 to 2 plan now known as (streamlining the zoning code). There were 80 to 100 people there. The proposal will result in elimination of hearings as a result of the code simplification. At the forum she spoke as a stakeholder and said that NC's should be on the advisory committees. **Richard Adams** gave background on the proposed NFL deal. He stated that if you want to bring a team to LA, the owner/promoter should buy the land and build the stadium complying with the CQUA. No city has ever made a profit on building a stadium. We have a functioning building not paid for and they want to tear it down and rebuild it somewhere else. If it is a business run it as a business, **Public Comment: Barry Johnson** said there are plenty of places in Southern California where there is land to do build a stadium. There is not enough parking at Staples

as it is. Let the NFL can find land somewhere else with better access. AGE can foot the bill if they want to do this. The City has no business getting involved in this transaction. **Scott Ouellette** said he thinks the motion is ridiculous. Petco Park brought economic development to the area. You need public private partnerships to get this type of thing done. City of LA should have an NFL team. If done properly everyone will profit. **John Walker** read the motion.

MOTION: The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council opposes the expenditure of any City funds, the incurrence of any City debt, the destruction of any existing public venue or the sale of any public building or land in the furtherance of constructing an NFL Stadium anywhere inside the Los Angeles City Limits.

Board Comments: Richard Niederberg stated that he does not like the motion as we are stepping on the toes of the NC in that area. If AEG can afford it they can build it. **Jeff Carter** explained that they are not paying for it they are also using public funds. There was much board discussion. **Lisa Sarkin** said the issue is that we oppose the expenditure of city funds or incurrence of any city debt for the project. An amended motion was made. **Moved:** Richard Niederberg, **Second:** Lisa Sarkin. **Rita Villa** read the amended motion.

MOTION: The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council opposes the expenditure of any City funds, the incurrence of any City debt, or the sale of any public building or land in the furtherance of constructing an NFL Stadium anywhere inside the Los Angeles City Limits.

Ben Di Benedetto said he was not in favor of this motion. Lana Shackelford said they are trying to use City money to build this project. Vote: 4:8:1 **Motion failed.**

Additional board discussion took place. **Vote to call question failed.**

Ben Neumann moved to postpone consideration of this issue **second Gail Steinberg. Wayne Kartin** said this is a city wide issue. **Jeff Carter** said we should vote on this. He does not see that we are stepping on the toes of anyone. This will impact everyone's tax bill. If there was a market for football in LA we would have a team. Vote up or down but do not kill it this motion. **Barry Johnson** reiterated that if a bond passed on this we all pay for it. Downtown belongs to all of us. **Richard Adams** said that some have disputed that the old convention center is obsolete. **Vote to postpone consideration of the motion failed. Vote to call the question failed.**

Motion to send issue back to committee **Moved:** Todd Royal; **Second:** Victor Helo.

Ben Neumann wants to send it back. **Richard Adams** stated that the gentleman from AEG said that this needs to go forward now or they will abandon the project so it is a rush. However there has been a website for Farmers field has been up for months. The bond issue is for paying for the destroying and rebuilding of the building. **Lisa Sarkin** said she generally agrees that we should not but in other NC's territory but this relates to the expenditure of city funds. **Wayne Kartin** said he did not agree with the motion. Ben said he feels this should go back. **Vote to send the motion back to committee failed.**

Remy Kessler proposed an amended motion. **Second** by Richard Niederberg:

MOTION: The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council opposes the expenditure of any city funds or the incurrence of any City debt for the purpose of constructing an NFL Stadium inside the Los Angeles City Limits.

Todd Royal said he does not like the language of the motion and feels there are no facts. **Lana Shackelford** said the city mismanages money and our strongest voice is to say we do not want the City involved in this project. **Lisa Sarkin** said she wants a team but does not want the city involved in this. **Richard Niederberg** said he likes the amended motion. The Committee does not want it back. Remy has a great version and we should vote on the amendment. **Jeff Carter** said we held a special meeting of the GAC to bring this here tonight and we should vote up or down tonight. Vote to call the question. **Moved:** Remy Kessler; **Second:** Rita Villa. **Vote to call the question 12:1:0. Motion Carries**

Vote on amended Motion. Vote 8:5:0. Motion Carries

14. Outreach Committee report by **Lisa Cahan-Davis**. **Lisa Cahan-Davis** reported that the SCNC needs people to man the booth we will have at the Farmers Market in March. The objective of the booth is outreach. With respect to the possibility of hosting a candidate forum for the upcoming election it is too late. The web designer is working on the new web site design and the ones we have gotten are great. We are moving quickly on this. Outreach has a Facebook fan page She encouraged everyone to visit the site. It is for disseminating public information. She asked for clarification of the process for getting the phone messages left for outreach. **Lisa Cahan-Davis** said she attends the LA heritage alliance meetings but we will not have a table at LA Heritage day. **Lisa Sarkin** requested that she ask Councilmen Krekorian and LaBonge to stop by the table at the Farmers market. **Richard Adams** is working on a flyer about what the SCNC is and does that will be at the Farmers market booth. He is sending it to the board members so we can give him our comments on it. Todd Royal will be the contact person. **Barry Johnson** said the planning dept and the specific plan review board came up with a brochure related to signage and all NC's in the specific plan area are distributing them and supporting their distribution. **Susan Taylor** suggested we have bullet points of the committee reports so people will know what we are going to talk about. **Richard Adams said we should put the committee reports or bullet points on the SCNC website.**

15. Transportation Committee report by **Ben Di Benedetto/Scott Ouellette**. **Ben Di Benedetto** said traffic still sucks but he is working on it. There were two motions brought by the Transportation Committee tonight that were the subject of the special agenda. There is another matter that has been sent to the budget committee for consideration.

16. Bylaws Committee report by **Ron Taylor**. **None**

17. Crime & Safety Committee report by **Wayne Kartin**. **None**

18. Cultural Affairs Committee report by **Richard Niederberg**. **Richard Niederberg** spoke on survey LA. He believes that it will happen. He hopes someone moves this forward and his committee will move it forward also. He also reported that a summer event is being planned.

19. Comments from Board Members on subject matters within the Board's jurisdiction. **Rita Villa** said stakeholders, and board members in particular should speak to facts related to a motion or issue in support of their position and not just level vile criticism. We need to respect the work that is done by the volunteers on the committees that send the motions to the board and not put that work down. **Ben Di Benedetto** apologized for having been critical tonight at one point rather than factual. **Lisa Sarkin** stated that the Planning Department includes the voluntary conditions in their determination letters, which allows the Department of Building & Safety to enforce the voluntary conditions.

20. Adjournment. **Moved:** Rita Villa; **Second:** Jeff Carter; **Vote:** Unanimous. **Motion Carries.**



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WEDNESDAY, February 16 2011 7PM
at

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The public is requested to fill out a "Comment Card"(2 Min) to address the Committee on any item of the agenda prior to the Committee taking action 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 matters not appearing on the Agenda that is within the Committee's subject matter jurisdiction will be heard during the Public Comment period. Public comment is limited to two minutes per speaker, unless directed otherwise by the presiding officer of the Board. The agenda is posted for public review at: Studio City Neighborhood Council website (www.scnc.info); as well as CBS Studio Center, Radford and Colfax gates; the Studio City Library, 12511 Moorpark St.; the Studio City Recreation Center, 12621 Rye Ave. and at Carpenter Avenue Elementary School, 3909 Carpenter Avenue, Studio City, CA 91604. As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities. Sign language interpreters, assistive 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 three (3) business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting the Neighborhood Council Project Coordinator (213) 473-5391 or by e-mail to Thomas.Soong@lacity.org.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call. Jeffrey Carter – present, Ben Di Benedetto – present; Josh Gelfat – present, Victor Helo - present, Wayne Kartin – present, Remy Kessler - present, Ben Neumann present, Richard Niederberg - present, Todd Royal - present, Lisa Sarkin - present, Lana Shackelford – present, Gail Steinberg – present, Ron Taylor – excused, Rita Villa –present, John Walker – present. 13 voting members; 66 stakeholders present.

2. Approval of Minutes. None

3. Public Comment on non-agenda items within the Committee's jurisdiction. None.

4. Member's Responses to Public Comments. None

5. Special Transportation report by Ben Di Benedetto. Public Comments: **Fiona Hutton-Wise** stated that she is a resident on Iredell works in CD2 as well. She has worked with the Transportation Committee on the parking issue and she also wants to speak about Will Acre Park. Their neighborhood is impacted because all surrounding streets are permit parking zones. Dogs defecate all around and men urinate, there is constantly trash left on the streets. They need community involvement on the hiker issue and how they move through the neighborhood. **Al Shaffer** lives on Iredell St. His concerns involve safety. It is a fire brush area. The street is a substandard narrow street. He has sent a dangerous condition letter to the councilman. They need signs posted on both sides of the street as there is a negative environment in the area. Cars travel too fast on the street even when there are children present. People come around the blind curve too quickly with no area to pass. The area is dangerous due to the fire issue. **Barry Julien** said he lives on Iredell. His is the first house around the bend. Permit parking ends right before his house. There are numerous safety issues. Residents need to keep their gates closed because of the trash and other dangers. A head-on accident is only a matter of time and emergency vehicle will not be able to get through. In eight and a half years that he has lived there the situation has gotten much worse. There is no parking around the bend. The Street should not have ended where it did. **Scott Ouellette** supports the motion. **John Nagler** lives on Iredell street. The problem is outrageous. There are too many hikers. There are thousands of hikers and they all come in cards. This area is a treasure but the hikers need to stay on the trails. We need to preserve the natural environment. How can we preserve the area with all these hikers coming in. **Officer Mike Lewis** said it took years to get the permit parking that exists. The Briarwood Association paid for the ranger's house and the parking lot. The Santa Monica

Conservancy is now charging for parking. Therefore, there are now burglaries from cars, credit cards are taken and robbers go and use the cards in the hour while the hikers are hiking. **Officer Mike Lewis** asked the SCNC to contact the SM Conservancy to see if they will reverse the parking fee as the lot is now only 1/3 full. It would help the community if hikers could park without paying the fee.

Board Comments: **Lana Shackelford** said she was hiking regularly before the fee was instituted. Once the fee was instituted she has stopped using the park. Additionally, it is now overcrowded with people. **Remy Kessler** asked if anyone from Iredell has attempted to get the access from Iredell closed. **Dian Stiger** said that was what was supposed to happen. **Richard Niederberg** said he concurs with Officer Lewis. He does not want to come up with a motion that appears elitist. **Ben Di Benedetto** said they started getting letters in November about parking problems, nuisance problems and cars blocking the street. Parking on one side of the street may be what the answer is to address the safety issue. He will work with the Conservancy to get parking opened up. He does not want traffic shoved down somewhere else. **Partrice Berlin** said you can get a \$100 permit for unlimited parking. **Wayne Kartin** said the fire department has tried to get one side of the street to be no parking and every time they try they are refused because the council man is inundated with protests against it.

5.a MOTION: The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council requests an immediate inclusion of upper Iredell Street (from 12149 Iredell Street to the last house) west of Iredell Lane in the Iredell/Fryman preferred parking district no. 111. (Motion comes from transportation Committee). **Barry Johnson** thinks this is a no brainer. He supports it and once it is voted on he wants to know how quickly will the councilman move this forward. Also he asked that those stakeholders who live there need to let SCNC and SCRA know where the problem has moved too if this is implemented. **Richard Adams** – understands the complaints and sympathizes with these residents. If that area is no parking then where are the cars going to go. **John Walker** read the motion. **Lisa Sarkin** asked that the number of the permit parking district be added to the motion Todd asked if the DOT has agreed to this as he was told by DOT last year no new parking districts. **Ben Di Benedetto** said this street is adjacent to the existing permit parking district and as this only an extension it may be granted. **Vote: 13:0:0. Motion Carries.**

5.b MOTION: The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council authorizes issuance of a letter substantially in the form below opposing changes to Metro Bus Line presently #96. (Motion comes from Transportation Committee). **Barry Johnson** said all MTA busses in the city are subsidized. This line has recently had smaller busses put on it. This line has smaller ridership but the people who ride it have no other transportation. The only part being deleted is the part that serves Studio City. For people wanting to go to Sherman Oaks this is the line. Stop them from taking this away from Studio City. **Richard Adams** said he is against this motion. If the ridership is not economic enough to support the line who is going to pay for it? There is a limit to what we can fund. Is there any other public transportation to serve the area? **Todd Royal** asked if we know how much it costs per hour to run this bus and how much the ridership is. **Ben Di Benedetto** answered there is no other line that can get people from Studio City to the connections that go to the hospitals in Sherman Oaks or Burbank. There is ridership that is dependent on that bus line. If Studio City loses that line these people will have no way to get there. **Todd Royal** said if it is an emergency call an ambulance. There is also a van to pick up the elderly **Vote: 12:1:0. Motion Carries.**

Metro Customer Relations
Attn: June 2011 Service Changes
One Gateway Plaza, 99-PL-r
Los Angeles, California 90012-2932

RE: Changes to Metro Bus Line #96 Effecting Studio City

Dear Metro:

SCNC Board Agenda (cont.)

In response to the Proposed Changes to Metro Bus Service flyer and Metro’s request for public input, the Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council has reviewed the proposed changes to Bus Line #96. The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council opposes the service change to Metro Bus Line #96 which affects Studio City and eliminates services in the Tujunga Village area of Studio City and reduces connection options between Burbank and Sherman Oaks.
Sincerely,

John Walker, President

6. Adjournment (1 min). Moved: Lisa Sarkin; **Second:** Todd Royal; **Vote:** 13:0:0. Motion Carries.

