

SCNC BOARD

Jeffrey Carter
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 C. Villa
John T. Walker
Denise Welvang



APPROVED BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, July 20, 2011
Light Refreshments 6:30pm
Meeting 7:00pm

at

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

PRESIDENT
John T. Walker

VICE PRESIDENT
Lisa Sarkin

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.studiocitync.org); 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.studiocitync.org 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@studiocitync.org.

1. Call to Order & Roll Call (2 min).
Excused Absences: Wayne Kartin, Ben Neumann, Todd Royal, Gail Steinberg, Rita Villa, Denise Welvang, Josh Gelfat. In attendance: John Walker, Lisa Sarkin, Jeffrey Carter, Remy Kessler, Richard Niederberg, Ben Di Benedetto, Ron Taylor, Victor Helo and Lana Shackelford. 9 Members present. Quorum met. Need 5 to pass a motion. Stakeholders present: please see sign-in list dated 7-20-11.
2. Approval of June 15, 2011 Board Minutes (2 min). Brought by: Lisa Sarkin. Approved Unanimously.
3. Comments by the President - thanks to Lisa and Lana for setting up the room (10 min).
4. In August L.A. County Supervisor, Zev Yaroslavsky will be our special guest. Others who may be candidates in the upcoming mayoral elections will be invited to attend the meetings spread out over the course of the following months, however, there is no guest speaker scheduled for September.

Budgeted money from the 2010-2011 budget cycle was used successfully, it was a back breaking effort to spend the remaining funds within the deadline juxtaposed by DONE and the last council meeting date prior to the deadline. Lisa Cahan-Davis from the Outreach Committee worked tirelessly to assist John and the Budget Committee to do so. Only \$1,000 was returned and there will be no rollover money for this next year's budget.

It is reported that All Board Members have passed the ethics tests.

Suggestions have been raised for other food options to be considered for meetings: Our current agreement with the vendor used at this time is a value that is very beneficial for our needs and incomparable to options that have been explored previously.

DWP would like to increase the rates and this board's position is that there should be no rate increase on the table without a rate payer advocate.

5. Public Comments on non-agenda items within the Board's jurisdiction (2 min ea).

Marilyn White-Sedel: Illegal Sign Posting brochures were distributed. The illegal sign posting is rampant and is a fineable offense for an illegal posting. Only one man in the valley is assigned to this duty of pulling them down. It is everyone's duty to pull down illegal signs.

Gayle McKenna: Looking for volunteers for an event on Sept. 11, 2011 for the Ovarian Cancer Coalition Walk at CBS. Please sign up for Saturday (9-Noon) Sunday (10a.m. – 6 p.m.) Forty Military people will be attending as well as about 1500-2000 walkers/runners. All business owners are encouraged to place brochure holders in their businesses. All money raised in CA, stays in CA.

Richard Adams: 1) seconds John on food comment, there have been many options presented. Agrees with John on the council's DWP position, "Chinatown is a movie and not to be real life."

Mort Adams: Property owner celebrating 50 years in business, pleaded to have something done about the road/alley area behind his business located at Carpenter and Ventura, so many large potholes are in the street and now there is a large pile of debris which is mounting prohibiting safety for traffic and causing a horrible trash disposal situation. A property developer has offered to purchase his business on the location at Carpenter. He has requested that the council takes up the initiative to get the alley behind the business cleaned up.

6. Responses to comments from the Board (2 min ea).

Lisa has requested more details from Mr. Allen regarding a 12 story building that he mentioned was to be developed by an unidentified developer.

7. Colfax Bridge Update brought by Geoffrey Yazzetta from Councilman Krekorian's office (5 min).

Mr. Yazzetta reported a recent partial-final-inspection of the Colfax Bridge for the tentative opening for car traffic – discovered that the railing and lighting were ready. However, a 30 ft. storm drain sunk below grade and they are working on a fix with two options: 1) trenching the entire length or 2) replace a smaller portion. On Thursday there will be a better estimate of which work will be done. We are looking at possibly one-two weeks before these things will be finalized. There will be a ribbon cutting about 8 a.m. and the date will be announced and we will be notified. Official opening deadline is Oct. 18, which ahead of schedule.

No Public comments.

8. LADWP Trunk Line Construction – John Hinton (10 min).

Todd Le, a construction engineer supervisor and a representative for the LADWP reported on the work being done on the City Trunk Lines 4 and 5.

The work at Whitsitt and Moorpark will be wrapped August 1. This crew will be relocated to the crew on Ventura and Coldwater project to assist in completion, but will not be working everyday. The Magnolia and Whitsitt work will continue for a while and will be continued for 2012-2015. The workzone on coldwater will be in January 2012 and then moved to the next work zone just south of that area. The area South of Ventura approximate completion timeline is 2013. They will take out about 2600 ft of trunk line.

Public comments:

Mr. Allen asked why it takes so long in this area compared to others.

Mr. Le: Only 50 crew persons are available to work on several projects at once.

Richard Adams inquired why is there a difference in the level of competency between the city workers and individual commercial contractors. The city is not equipped to maintain the expertise and materials needed for specific jobs.

Board Members Comment: Victor Helo asked for a solution to a faster completion time.

Mr. Le responded that the LADWP has a directive to cut all the overtime to the staff.

Ron Taylor asked about the work South of Ventura on Coldwater, will the work continue south up the hill where the road narrows and what are the traffic plans?

Mr. Le: We will be going up to Hacienda Drive and do not expect that much more traffic that is experienced now. Getting people out of driveways and picking up trash were the two more important issues to mitigate issues of neighbors and processes of life and construction work.

Mr. Le commented that there is a lack of skilled workers and appropriate supervisors. Turn over rate of supervisors is fast and they are not equipped to continue to fill the those supervisory positions.

9. Interim Branch Manager – Studio City Library, Candice Mack (10 min).

New interim Studio City Branch Manager – Candice Mack reported that there are new resources for the Studio City Branch Library and New Monday Hours from the passage of Ballot Measure L. Monday hours are now 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. along with the other regular hours.

Next Thursdy on July 28 a guest speaker is feature writer/producer Gregg Huritz. Next Sat 10-5:30 is a book sale. To find out more information regarding the events planned for the Studio City library, 11255 Moorpark Street, please see the website: www.lapl.org choose "branches" and find Studio City or visit the facebook site at www.Facebook.com/lapl/studio. Candice Mack may be reached by email at: Cmack@lapl.org

No Public Comments: NONE

10. Treasurer's report by **Remy Kessler** (5 min). Report by Remy:

The new budget started with no rollover money for this budget which started with \$4,500 and now the budget is **34, 633**.

MOTION A: The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council has reviewed the July 2011 financial statements and the June 2011 bank statements and hereby accepts and approves them. Unanimously passed.

11. Budget Committee Report by **Remy Kessler** for **Mark Batterman** (10 min).

12. VANC Report by **Arlene Samek** (10 min). Arlene reminded the council to attend the

NC Congress session scheduled for September 24. There was a request from the budget committee for the amount of \$200-300 per council to support this session.

A letter was sent to DWP that we did not want a rate increase until there is a rate payer present. A Five member committee will appoint the new executive director, which then reports to the Rate payer Advocate. The City Council President has now recommended that a new office be formed that would report to the Rate Payer Advocate:

There are templates being developed for the real time budget issues.

The appointed head of DONE attends a lot of council meetings and is very supportive. A large concern is regarding a possibility of grouping the NC's.

As for the Parking permits issued to each NC, there are only two permits per council to attend city hall.

The New Football Stadium concerns were addressed.

August 2, 2011 is national night out (5-9) at the Van Nuys Police department will host activities for the night.

Public comment came from Richard Adams who requested assistance from John Walker to ask about a film to show at the North Hollywood's Night Out.

13. Outreach Committee Report by **Lisa Cahan-Davis** (10 min).

Thanks to all committee members and board members who participated in the Fourth of July event on the CBS lot sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce.

www.StudioCitync.org lists areas of interest for residents.

There are now SCNC posters to use at events that we sponsor or attend.

Invite all board members and chairs to the August meeting to discuss and create a strategy to use the budget to reach out to stakeholders in every medium.

Update on Street Banners to be placed in Studio City: 49 banners will be located though out the area. Artwork was passed around for review of the board members at meeting. Three choices were reviewed by the Outreach committee and one was selected to show the board.

Lisa will contact studio city local officer (Mike Lewis) to see if we will have a booth for the event National Night Out, scheduled for Aug. 2, 2011

There are three dates remaining for SCNC to participate at the Farmers Market for 2011).

Public comments:

Board member Remy Kessler: Encourages the committee to emphasize the Neighborhood Council words needs to be more prominent in the artwork.

Richard Adams: suggested to a select a slogan for our Studio City banners similar to what Valley Village banners are using (the slogan – it takes a village).

14. By-Laws Committee Report by **Ron Taylor** (10 min).

Committee Chairman Ron Taylor is happy to get a reprieve by the city attorney for the submission for the newly reformatted by-laws. Every board member has a copy of the changes in the by-laws numbered 12, 10, 15 and 19. Finance Language is entirely new (page 15 – article nine is DONE city wide language)

Update to established committees: The environmental affairs committee was disbanded and it will be asked to be struck from the by-laws.

Motion below brought by: Ron Taylor seconded by Jeffrey Carter. Discussion by Richard Adams urges the adoption. Passes 9-0.

MOTION: The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council adopts the attached set of it by-laws which have been revised and reformatted according to the requirements of the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment. Brought by Ron Taylor. (bylaws sent separately).

15. Government Affairs Committee Report by **Jeffery Carter** and **Rita Villa** (20 min).

Report by Jeffrey Carter: First Motion was by committee and states a position regarding the Ratepayer advocate.

MOTION: The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council endorses the following resolution that was unanimously approved by the Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition on July 2, 2011:

“The Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition strongly urges that the Board of Water and Power Commissioners and the City Council not consider or act upon the proposed water and power rate increases until the Ratepayers Advocate is established and has thoroughly reviewed and analyzed the proposed rate increases and presented such review and analysis to the Ratepayers and the public for their careful consideration. Brought by Rita Villa. Seconded by Jeffrey Carter. Discussion: Richard Adams: Explaining in more details why this motion is a good idea. There seems to be rush to access money and there is no need to rush to raise these rates. Board Comments: What we voted for is basically telling the city what we voted for and we are supposed to have rate payer advocate within 3 months of the election. Remy asked about the Coalition and it is described as the same as VANC. Vote is unanimous.

MOTION: The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council requests that the proposed ordinance amending Sections 12.24 and 14.00 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) prohibit farmers’ markets by Conditional Use Permit in all R Zones, allow them, as a Public Benefit in the A, C, M, and P Zones, with performance standards, and remove farmers’ markets from being permitted in most zones under the Further Authority of the Zoning Administrator.

Public Comment:

Richard Adams reported that the committee vetted this motion with in-depth analysis and concern for residents.

Council Comments:

Jeffrey Carter added that the committee was in favor to not have farmers markets in residential areas. The above motion was passed by the city council – Rita brought this to the GAC and what this motion says is that anyone in a residential area could have a farmers market. We request the R zones be eliminated.

Lisa Sarkin commented that this motion is time sensitive.

Remy and Ben requested that we clarify the language in the motion. It sounds cryptic and unclear. Jeffrey Carter read the recommendation which assisted in helping to understand the motion and why it was written in the motion language.

Richard Adams concurred that this motion is clear to those who read it in the city departments. Ron Taylor reminded us that we are an advisory committee and that the language used is fine, and though it is not artful language, it is sufficient.

Richard Niederberg states that there are plenty of federal enclaves that are not specified.

Vote: 7 in favor and 2 opposed, motion Passes.

16. Land Use Committee Report by **Lisa Sarkin** (20 min).

Donal Poppy: represents the owners of a property on Iredell street as a land-use consultant. The following motion reflects the details of a request. All information is inclusive and Lisa sent via email info regarding this last week to board members. Donal showed a diagram of the property and the proposed work to be done. The reason for the “no kitchen facility” in the garage will help with the approval from the city. The garage is in the front of the property, not facing into a neighboring facility.

Public Comment:

Richard Adams added this is an RE-40 lot and there is enough room. He is in favor of this motion and has full faith in the Land use committee.

MOTION: The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council supports new construction use and maintenance located at 12001 Iredell Street, Studio City [ZA-2011-337-ZAA] of a one story addition with a 5 foot side yard in lieu of 10 feet for a length of 30 feet, a 2 story garage with studio with a 5 foot setback in lieu of 10 feet for a length of 30 feet and a 46 foot 4 inch front yard setback in lieu of 55 feet in the RE40-1-H zone with no kitchen facilities in the garage or studio. Passed unanimously.

Land Use Committee Chairman, Lisa Sarkin reported that there were 44 people who attended the last land use committee meeting. The Enterprise Zone (Vineland to Carpenter) and the The Specific Plan was discussed. The Specific Plan is superior to the zone, it reduces the parking slots per 100 yards.

There is an opportunity for a Tujunga and Ventura parking structure on a second story. There are 9 marijuna joints in the area but only two are legal.

A Lankershim business was charging \$10 for parking and would not allow handicap parking and there is no residential parking.

Twenty-two neighbors showed up to protest the request for a liquor license and operating hours til 4 a.m. for a restaurant called STOUT.

17. Cultural Affairs report by Richard Niederberg
There is work to create an event for September.

18. Transportation Committee Report by **Ben Di Benedetto** (10 min).

Reported that the committee took no additional or different positions on the Modified Park and Ordinance.

The "Bicycles Ordinance" No R parking (in front no rear of building).

On the Red light Photo camera research - the city had a recommendation that a study be done before additional motions are made.

Update on Iredell Parking situation was solved for all involved. The City's Transportation Committee's position was that the city recognized they created a problem that they didn't mean to create and they are working with the city attorney to rectify it.

19. Comments from Board Members on subject matters within the Board's jurisdiction (10 min).

John Walker offered a discussion regarding the SCNC email system and asked that each board member who is not set up with the Google account to contact the webmaster and the webmaster will assist with the set up. Any board member who desires to have emails forwarded to personal accounts can have that done and should instruct the webmaster do set up messages to be forwarded to the personal accounts.

Lisa and John emphasized the importance of responding to the emails.

20. Adjournment (1 min). Meeting concluded at 9:30 p.m.

