

SCNC BOARD

Jeff Carter
Lisa Cahan Davis
Sam Eisner
Bill Harmond
Emily Hibard
Alex Izbicki
Lisa Karadjian
Remy Kessler
Rudy Melendez
Richard Niederberg
Lisa Sarkin
Lana Shackelford
Gail Steinberg
Rita C. Villa
John T. Walker
Denise Welvang



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John T. Walker

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Lisa Sarkin

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SECRETARY
Rita C. Villa

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY
Emily Hibard

**BOARD MEETING
APPROVED MINUTES**

Wednesday, October 21, 2015

Light Buffet 6:30pm

Meeting 7:00pm

at

CBS Studio Center, MPR-3

4024 Radford, Studio City CA, 91604

www.StudioCityNC.org

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Studio City, CA 91604
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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. 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 Studio City Neighborhood Council Vice President, Lisa Sarkin (818) 655-5400 or by e-mail to lsarkin@studiocitync.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.

1. Call to Order & Roll Call. Jeff Carter– present, Lisa Cahan Davis – present, Sam Eisner – present, Bill Harmond – present, Emily Hibard – present, Alex Izbicki – present, Lisa Karadjian –excused, Remy Kessler - present, Rudy Melendez – present, Richard Niederberg - present, Lisa Sarkin - present, Lana Shackelford – present, Gail Steinberg – excused, Rita Villa – present, John Walker – present, Denise Welvang – present. 13 voting members; 7 to pass a motion. 78 stakeholders present.
2. Pledge of Allegiance. The Pledge was recited.
3. Approval of September 16, 2015 Board Minutes. **Approved** in the absence of objection.
4. Comments by the President. **John Walker** welcomed everyone. Privileged to have two elected representatives here tonight. Monster Palooza is going on nightly and is lots of fun. Paul Krekorian will talk at the upcoming business seminar. On 12/6 will be our annual Luminaria festival. Beautiful after dark. Nice event across from Universal Studios. In 4/2016 the NC election will take place on 4/7/15. There will be on line voting this year. The more people who vote the more cache we will have.

5. Special Guest Assembly-member **Adrin Nazarian**. **John Walker** introduced Assembly Member Adrin Nazarian. **Adrin Nazarian** said that Sacramento is second densest tree capital in the world and the pollen it is giving him asthma. It has been an interesting year. It was supposed to be the year of transportation but that has not happened and it has not been the year of health care either. Both special sessions are open and will remain open until the work is completed. The death with dignity bill passed and the vaccination bill passed. CalPers has been prevented from investing in coal. They are investing more in renewable energy. He worked on the medical marijuana issue. This is a very sensitive issue to him. He has voted against this every time it has come up and will continue to do so until the discrepancy between the state and federal government is resolved. Proposition D has been mildly successful. He worked on the seismic retrofit bill which provided more financing for retrofit purposes. He has been working with organizations running earthquake preparedness programs. Many people are not prepared. He has continued the funding for the brace and bolt program. It runs by zip codes. He requested that zip codes in the San Fernando Valley are included. In the seismic retrofit cost recovery program, the state and city were to cooperate. This program was vetoed by the Governor. **Adrin Nazarian** also worked for the arts. State investment to the arts budget has been negligible. Arts were funded at 32 million in 1992. It is now only \$1 million. Arts funding has been increased to \$5 million on a permanent basis. It needs to be built up more. The goal is to get arts funding back into the schools. With respect to mass transit he has worked on removing restrictions on the building of light rail on the orange line. We have long term issues and this is only a band aide. There is a bill for a public/private partnership for investments in such things as the SF Valley Westside connection. We are looking for better connections through other projects as well. Various city fees have been collected under the Quimby act. The interest collected is now allowed to be spent due to current legislation. The City is spreading this money evenly throughout every district in the city. Step therapy is also an issue he has addressed. Generic brands must be used until they fail 5 times before the consumer is allowed to have insurance coverage for receiving the name brand. This is an expensive process because we are paying for the generic brand but those prescriptions don't get used. The legislation he worked on has changed the time period during which a health insurer must respond to the consumer as to why the consumer can't get the name brand. **Heide McCane** asked about the Harvard Westlake project. It is adjacent to state managed conservancy land. A portion of the project is on some open space land. **Adrin Nazarian** responded that he is in favor of open space. If there is state funding he wants to purchase the Weddington property. He does not think he should weigh in on the Harvard Westlake project at this time. **Lisa Sarkin** asked if any of the measure R money has gone to the valley. **Adrin Nazarian** responded not yet. They are talking about various projects which could benefit the Valley. High speed rail is very costly. He wants some regional connectivity first. He wants the red line connected to the gold line. **Barry Johnson** said he did the transportation survey on line. He asked why they aren't considering a subway. **Adrin Nazarian** responded that he would rather have an underground option. It costs a billion for

each mile. He does not know if a tunnel is the best choice. Possibly it should be light rail in the middle of the freeway. Light rail is not that slow. **Bill Harmond** said the governor vetoed opening the HOV lanes on the 134 after peak traffic hours. **Adrin Nazarian** responded that the legislation was not well thought out. It may have frustrated more drivers. **Eric Preven** thanked **Adrin Nazarian** for expanding the orange line vehicles. Said we are not in a position to extend the Santa Monica Mountains this way. **Adrin Nazarian** responded that he will not overstep his boundary. He must respect the individual involved in the decision making position. The councilman has embraced this issue. **Lana Shackelford** asked about the arts funding. She wanted to know if it is for schools or for communities. **Adrin Nazarian** responded that it is for communities, prisons, veterans, youth based organizations and more will be spent in the central valley and inland empire. **Elizabeth Schlem** asked if Quimby funds could be used to help the current parks. What about the water issue? **Adrin Nazarian** responded that he held two water summits this year, the desalination summit and the annual water summit. It is a jurisdictional issue. If there are projects that would not have him overstep he would follow up on them. They passed a 1 billion dollar relief fund for communities that were left without water. They are talking about how to expand the \$7.5 billion dollar bond. \$800 million was for underground clean-up. We have water under-ground but it is contaminated so we can't use much of it. Proposed a JPA for the DWP to sell bonds for capital improvement. Two water processing facilities are proposed for the San Fernando Valley. **Lisa Cahan Davis** asked if there is anything he is working on to bring businesses to the city of L.A and the Valley. **Adrin Nazarian** responded that the entertainment bill and tax credits are ways this is being done. See the Gobiz website. There are programs available. **Matthew Lanter** said he would like to address the homeless situation. There is a van that parks in front of his house. The police can do nothing. **Adrin Nazarian** responded that the response from police was not appropriate. No vehicle can be parked for 72 hours. This is a jurisdictional issue. Logistically it does not work to put no overnight parking on one street because they will move to the next street. They are looking at the Denver scenario right now. We demand sobriety for them to get a homeless shelter bed. Trying to figure out the long term issue. **Rudy Melendez** asked if he thinks we live in a clean state. **Adrin Nazarian** responded with a question "What type of clean?" **Rudy Melendez** asked "Is there a lot a trash on the ground?" He asked what is being done to educate Californians to keep the state clean. **Adrin Nazarian** responded that we have PSA's, hazardous waste recycling and other programs. It is a long term and expensive problem, **Dana Witt** asked if the state is aware that Harvard Westlake wants to put a private bridge over a public road. **Adrin Nazarian** responded that he has his own opinions and has asked his staff to learn what is on the minds of is constituents on this matter. It is on his mind. He is continuing conversations about the issue but it is not his jurisdiction. **Alex Izbicki** said every municipality draws its water from the same source. Has the state considered a moratorium on expanding footprints of buildings until the water crisis has passed. **Adrin Nazarian** responded "no". Much of the state has been used to having its own well but that is causing subsidence. We use the aqueduct

and ground water. It is a complex issue. Local jurisdictions must take the lead. If you can't get it done in this city it won't pass at the state level. **Josh Dewitt** said bike lanes on Vineland are silly. Small tweaks could happen to improve transportation. Laurel Canyon needs to be expanded. **Adrin Nazarian** responded that there has been a large increase in population in the valley. This is a local issue but we have grown fast without good planning. Massive amounts of money need to be spent. The issue is investing in real mass transit to get people off the streets. **Barbara Leno** said she has problems with the homeless issue as well. The DWP is working all over the city and she wants to know when Laurel Canyon is going to be repaved. **Adrin Nazarian** responded that this is a local council issue. **Wayne Cole** said the gasoline tax was to be spent on the roads. A Brea Canyon council person brought a lawsuit against the state because those funds were diverted. **Adrin Nazarian** responded that with the use of hybrid and electrical cars gas tax revenue is decreasing. That money was used to fix the roads. Should we pay more in registration fees to recoup those funds? Those funds were used to cover budget shortfalls. **John Walker** asked about the grant for the brace and bolt program. Can it be used for the retrofit of apartment buildings? Will renters get an increase in their rent if they are in rent controlled buildings? **Adrin Nazarian** responded that he is not certain.

Bylaws report taken out of order at this point.

6. Special Guest State Senator **Bob Hertzberg**. **John Walker** introduced State Senator **Bob Hertzberg**. **Bob Hertzberg** showed the map of the communities he represents. He used to be speaker of the House and was responsible for drawing the lines of the districts. Now they have been redrawn by a nonpartisan committee. He was out of government for a lot of years but he came back to try to take the big think approach on how to serve best in government. He said that first you must be invested in the community. Second eliminate government approaches to problems that lack common sense. We must hear the impact of government programs and decisions on people's lives. The real cost of a ticket is only \$30 but the taxes on it make it \$280. We need to create an amnesty program so people can get their license back. Elections are another area of concern – There are barriers to voting. We should be creating vote centers where you will be able to vote for 14 days rather than voting only on one day. His third big idea is to go after tough political stuff. He is trying to see how to redo the tax system. He is concerned about water issues – No water has come through the aqueduct in 2015. He wants to recharge the ground water through spreading fields. We should be looking at desalinization. A stakeholder stated that Coldwater has been fixed but it has not been paved. When will this be paved? **Bob Hertzberg** responded that we lose 10% of our water due to leakage. Money available for road repairs has decreased due to lower gas usage due to electric cars and hybrids. There is a lack of coordination on fixing the roads. **Lana Shackelford** asked how much the dry water run-off will cost. **Bob Hertzberg** responded that we need to capture and clean up the dry water. **Jan Ross** said the city council banned high capacity magazines. The governor wants to let police

avoid the ban. **Bob Hertzberg** responded he does not support it. A stakeholder asked "Can gray water be used for irrigation?" **Bob Hertzberg** responded yes but we need to do more of this. A stakeholder asked if we could build lanes down the freeways cheaper than going underground. **Bob Hertzberg** responded that it is much less expensive to do that. **Richard Niederberg** asked if the production credit was working. **Bob Hertzberg** responded: Yes but the musicians feel they did not get part of it. **Barry Johnson** asked why are there weeks on our freeways. **Bob Hertzberg** responded it is about Caltrans and monies and how the monies are raised. We need to revise the tax structure. **Jan Ross** asked what the Senator is doing to protect our open space. **Bob Hertzberg** responded that he is working to get additional land into the conservancy. The problem is cash-flow for parks. **Jeffrey Jackobs** said this is a big issue. Just because Harvard Westlake has the money they should not get what they want. **Rudy Melendez** asked about litter abatement. We can't clean up. Can't we use the freeway signs to increase litter awareness. This is a societal problem. **Bob Hertzberg** responded that he wants to hold a summit on transportation next week to make an inventory of what is wanted and needed in the Valley for transportation. Measure R paid for a lot of transportation things but the Valley has not gotten much of that funding. We need to do a study about going under the 405. Take the orange line and put it on steel wheels. Extend the orange line to the North Valley.

7. Public Comments on non-agenda items within the Board's jurisdiction. **Damian Kevett** introduced himself as the executive director of Streets Are for Everyone. He said that LA has the highest percentage of hit and runs of any city. They are sponsoring an event to raise awareness of traffic safety and hit and runs. It is a 100 K bike ride. He invited the SCNC to be part of it. **Dana Witt** spoke about vacating the paper road. June 25th 2014 there was a fire. The fire department could not get up Patosi. It is under 9 feet wide at some points. If the city allows the vacation of this road, people on her street will have no way out of the area. **Thomas Schwartz** said he lives on Patosi. Closing off the extension of Hacienda Blvd will prevent access for fire department. The excavation planned will take years and massive trailer trucks will be needed to haul away the dirt. **Alex Izbicki** said that he is surprised about the proposed vacation on Hacienda Drive as it is a vital fire access route. This is vacation will not have a public benefit. Other vacations in the area have not been vetted by the SCNC. **Lee Davis** reported that the Museum of the San Fernando Valley is opening a new exhibit. There will be a wine and cheese reception 4 to 6PM. It is a post century modern exhibit. Go to their website and check it out www.themuseumsfv.org . **Barry Johnson** said 2 to 3 years ago we voted for bike lanes on Vineland or Lankershim only without the loss of a traffic lane. Now that there are two bike lanes on each side, traffic backs up because they took a lane of traffic away. There has been no person riding a bike in those lanes in the last few weeks when he was traveling in that area. **Jacque Overeem** introduced herself as an owner of **Rudy's Barbershop**. The opening is on the 30th. They are into community involvement. They have 5 shops and they are excited to be in the neighborhood. They are located on Ventura Blvd. just west of Laurel by Arts Deli. **Melanie Winter**

introduced herself as the River Project Founder and Director. She thanked the board and the sustainability committee for the event this weekend. They are one of the challenge grant competitors creating a training program for a 100,000 climate resilience program.

8. Responses to comments from the Board. **Lisa Sarkin** suggested that Damian contact the Transportation Committee. She recommends people go to the Museum of the San Fernando Valley. **Lana Shackelford** invited everyone to the Monster Palooza. **Rudy Melendez** said cyclists want to feel safe when they are riding their bikes. Streets are for everyone.
9. Update from CD2 by **Courtney Hamilton**. **Courtney Hamilton** reported that the signal was installed at Tujunga and Woodbridge. The DOT is installing, at the Irvine and Moorpark a new RFP crosswalk. There will be special effects at the LA River and Colfax. There will be a fake dead body on fire for a film shoot. With respect to the pedestrian tunnel under Lankershim near Ventura Blvd. they are trying to keep this area clean now that it has undergone a major cleanup. Call and report if you see trash building up in this area again. **John Walker** said 5 people came up to him tonight to raise the homeless issue. He asked what action can be taken to eliminate the fear. **Courtney Hamilton** said the county has dedicated money and the City has declared a state of emergency. They will look at the algorithm for allocating funding. **Barry Johnson** said of the 95 communities that make up LA we have it good. It is much worse in many parts of the City. **Lisa Sarkin** said there was a motorhome that dumped their waste in the drain at Kelsey. **Courtney Hamilton** said she would like to report that. **Lisa Sarkin** asked about the motorhomes that park on Laurel Canyon in front of the empty buildings. **Courtney Hamilton** said she is not responsible for that area of CD2. **Lisa Cahan Davis** asked if the councilman has any programs for residents to prepare for the big rains. **Rudy Melendez** asked if Courtney would point out and report the drains that are clogged and that need to be cleaned before the rains. **Courtney Hamilton** asked for anyone seeing a clogged drain to report it to her.
10. Appointment of **Denise Welvang** as Liaison as the SCNC Representative to the Animal Services Department of the City of Los Angeles. **Approved** in the absence of objection. **John Walker** explained the position and the organization.
11. Acceptance of the Stipulation Worksheet from DONE. Appointment of **Jeff Carter** as Chair of the Election Committee and appointment of **Lana Shackelford** for Outreach for the 2016 Studio City Neighborhood Council elections. **Approved** in the absence of objection.
12. Treasurer's Report by **Bill Harmond**. **Bill Harmond** stated that the report for September was sent to board members before the meeting. He briefly reviewed the report and stated that all bills have been paid to date. He reported that we have \$3,000 remaining in the outreach budget. The Rio Vista Grant is moving forward. Rick Rabins advised us that the Village Gardeners have finished the

fencing which we supported with a grant. The \$2,000 grant we approved for the Studio City Beautification Association's landscaping project at Fairway and Ventura is in abeyance. He also reported that Lorena Parker has taken a job with the San Pedro BID and will be leaving the Studio City BID. She will be greatly missed. **John Walker** read the motion.

Motion: The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council has reviewed the Monthly Expenditure Report for September, 2015, and hereby accepts and approves it.

See Board Vote on Board Vote Count Form attached to these minutes as Exhibit I. The motion was **Approved** in the absence of objection.

13. Sustainability Committee Report **Lisa Cahan Davis**. **Lisa Cahan Davis** stated that the committee's event was wonderful. There were 44 people in attendance. She explained that we live in a Mediterranean climate. The committee is in the planning stages for the Green Living Fair. Both May 5th and 7th are potential dates. Once the date is set this will move forward. She encouraged stakeholders to come to their committee meetings.
14. Outreach Committee Report by **Lana Shackelford**. **Lana Shackelford** reported that the next meeting will be the second Monday of November. Monster Palozza is now running and she listed the other events that are coming up including the Luminaria. She needs help at the farmers market Sunday and at the elections outreach events.
15. Land Use Committee Report by **Lisa Sarkin or Lisa Karadjian**. **Lisa Sarkin** stated that they did not have a meeting this month. The hearing for Bridges Academy was held and their application was approved. The Vitellos hearing was held and the outcome was held over for a determination letter by the ZA. The Cell Tower on Ventura Court is not really a tower at all. It is for additional satellites on an existing building. There was an article about the Sportsman's Landing and the lodge in the Ventura magazine. **Barry Johnson** said that the land use committee has lots of flyers on good neighbor issues. He noted that Kershaw has his trash cans taken in on time.
16. Government Affairs Committee Report by **Rita Villa**. **Rita Villa** stated that the background on this motion was provided to the board members in advance of the Meeting and requested that the motion be read. **John Walker** read the motion.

Motion: The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council understands the importance to our City's economy of being at the forefront of information technology by providing a wireless network that will provide high-speed internet access to anyone, anywhere in the City. However, based upon the information from the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the California Medical Association (both attached hereto), we request that concerns regarding the safety of wireless

communications raised in the letters be addressed and remediated in the design of the system. Specifically, the proposed installations should not be constructed in or around parks and schools unless the neighborhood councils, community groups and the neighborhoods are notified. Additionally, no public funds should be used to accomplish the objective. It should be funded by private parties and not by public funds as the City is not presently able to fund infrastructure repairs and its core competencies. We submit this motion as a community impact statement to council file 13-0953.

See Board Vote on Board Vote Count Form attached to these minutes as Exhibit II.
Motion Carried.

17. VANC Report from **Richard Niederberg**. **Richard Niederberg** reported that the election is April 7th and more information will come out from DONE.
18. Transportation Committee Report by **Barry Johnson**. **Barry Johnson** gave background on the motion. **John Walker** read the motion.

Motion: The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council supports Councilmember Paul Krekorian's motion (CF 14-1741 and 14-1741-51) to regulate internet based navigation applications such as "WAZE" and further asks that these apps be prohibited from sending cars through neighborhood streets not classified for thru-traffic or approved by the Los Angeles Department of Transportation for thru-traffic. We submit this motion in the form of a community impact statement.

Jan Perry supports this motion. **Sue Ellen**, Jan Ross said Berry Drive is the alternative to Laurel Canyon. **Richard Niederberg** supports the motion. **Emily Hibard** opposed the motion. **Lisa Sarkin** supports the motion. **Alex Izbicki** said this is just a band aid. We have too much traffic. **John Walker** said he supports the motion because this is intrusive on the neighborhood.

See Board Vote on Board Vote Count Form attached to these minutes as Exhibit III.
Motion Carried.

19. Budget Committee Report by **Remy Kessler**. **Remy Kessler** said he had no report this time.
20. Bylaws Committee Report by **Jeff Carter**. **Jeff Carter** stated that next Tuesday night they will have a Bylaws Committee meeting where they will be discussing the elections. He invited everyone to come and participate. The agenda is already on the website. The committee is at full strength but he wants everyone interested in participating to come to the meetings.

21. Cultural Affairs Committee Report by **Richard Niederberg**. **Richard Niederberg** said they are working on Luminaria. The event about restaurants in Studio City was successful and they may do it again.
22. Budget Advocate Report by **Brandon Pender**. **Brandon Pender** reported that the congress of neighborhood councils was a few Saturday's ago. Lisa Cahan Davis was a speaker. The Budget Advocates are scheduling a meeting with the department heads. He chairs the public works administration committee and the public works committee. They have a list of proposed questions to ask the department heads. Department heads pick the questions they think are relevant to their department. They try to record some of the sessions and they will prepare a white paper for the coming year. The purpose of the questions is to find out what the needs of the department are and to find a way to address those needs. Last year the IT problems were the issues. Now they are trying to establish goals for a performance based budget. He will be having a meeting with public works to address infrastructure issues. He gave out budget advocate cards for the rate the city services report card. **Bill Harmon** said the city is building out an LTE system for the fire department. **Richard Niederberg** said the CERT volunteers refurbished the communication trailer.
23. Comments from Board Members on subject matters within the Boards jurisdiction.
None.
24. Adjournment. **Moved:** Rita Villa; **Second:** Denise Welvang; **Vote:** unanimous.



