

## SCNC BOARD

Jeffrey Carter  
Ben Di Benedetto  
Remy Kessler  
Ben Neumann  
Richard Niederberg  
Lisa Sarkin  
Lana Shackelford  
Gail Steinberg  
Ron Taylor  
Pasha Vafae  
Rita C. Villa  
John T. Walker  
Denise Welvang



# BOARD MEETING APPROVED MINUTES

**Wednesday,  
September 19, 2012  
Light Buffet 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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1. Call to Order & Roll Call. Jeffrey Carter – present, Ben Di Benedetto – excused; Pasha Vafae – present, Remy Kessler - present, Ben Neumann – present, Richard Niederberg - present, Lisa Sarkin - present, Lana Shackelford – will be late, Gail Steinberg - present, Ron Taylor – present, Rita Villa –present, John Walker – present, Denise Welvang – present. 10 voting members; 6 to pass a motion; stakeholders present.
2. Approval of August 15, 2012 Board Minutes. **Approved** in the absence of objection.
3. Comments by the President. **John Walker** asked any non-board member candidates running in the SCNC election who are in the room to stand so they could be recognized. There were no candidates in the room who were not on the board in the audience at that time. He asked for people to make every effort to attend the upcoming meeting on Universal Evolution Project. He requested that the Government Affairs Committee follow the sidewalk issue.
4. Public Comments on non-agenda items within the Board's jurisdiction. **Barry Johnson** thanked the board for its motion on the proposed bridge vs tunnel crossing Lankershim Blvd at the Universal Metro Station. The motion has just in the last day or so been distributed to the MTA board members. A new photo rendering of the bridge has been provided to the SCNC president. Zev's transportation deputy was asked "Why was something to be built in Studio City approved without notification to the SCNC and the Studio City Residents Association or the residents within 500 feet of the project." He is wanting for a response. The Studio City motion is on the MTA agenda on Nov 25<sup>th</sup> for consideration of the name change for the Metro Station in Studio City. A motion for a name change has never been on an agenda before which was not approved. **Mike Szymanski** said the Patch is doing an experiment with educating small business owners to help them learn about the internet. There will be a free workshop from 1PM to 2PM on October 11<sup>th</sup>. He invited stakeholders to sign up. Information about the workshop is on the front page of the Studio City Patch. He also said that he wrote an article the "Power, Money and Glamor of Being

on the Neighborhood Council – NOT”. **Richard Adams** stated that AGE is for sale so they know that the stadium will not be profitable. He hopes our City Council will figure that out.

5. Responses to comments from the Board. **John Walker** asked for clarification on the Patch seminar. He stated that the bridge should adhere to the Community Plan requiring design elements of the Campo. **Richard Niederberg** said the space for the tunnel is already there. **Lisa Sarkin** said all the plywood by the opening when you come up from the subway is where the tunnel beginning is located.
6. Update from Council District 2 by **Geoffrey Yazzetta**. **Geoffrey Yazzetta** reminded everyone about the NC elections and asked for everyone to come out to vote. Carmagedon Part 2 is coming up 9/28 through 10/1 – stay local. The third annual media film festival is coming up and the deadline for submission is 1/16/12 . A medical marijuana petition has been turned into the City Council asking for repeal of the current gentle ban ordinance. It may be on the March 10<sup>th</sup> ballot. **Ron Taylor** asked Geoffrey Yazzetta to look into the dreadful condition of the Van Nuys/ Sherman Oaks Park. He said that the contractor hired to do the renovation has stopped work and the job is not completed. The park is dangerous as grass has been worn away and the rocks are sticking out. He asked him to help Labonge’s office focus on getting this fixed. **John Walker** asked about the fact he has heard the Federal Government is coming in to address the problem with the medical marijuana dispensaries. **Barry Johnson** said he understands that Krekorian will be invited to the annual Capitulation at the Campo. **Richard Adams** thanked Geoffrey for helping get the problems at the Kings Head Pub resolved.
7. Special Board Presentation from City Councilman **Paul Krekorian’s Office**. **John Walker** said this is an acknowledgement of the work done by the board members of the board. He is disappointed that more of the non-board candidates are not here. He gave an explanation of how the council works and what it does. He said this council is one of the most respected in the City of Los Angeles. He thanked everyone for being here and the board for its hard work. **Geoffrey Yazzetta** read the certificate from the City to the board members. **Ben Neumann** gave some parting comments. It has been an incredible experience. He has learned how to get things done by committee. He thanked John Walker for his service as vice president while Ben was president. **Jeff Carter** thanked everyone for their service and for the support of the community.
8. Presentation from **Eric Wright of Department of Transportation**. **Clinton Quam** introduced himself and said that he would make the presentation instead of Eric Wright. He said DOT has partnered with the NC to purchase lawn signs to promote safety. They are traffic calming devices. The signs are to be placed on private property and not be on telephone poles or in driveways. On 10/7/12 the Cyclavia bike ride will take place. On 10/12/12 the space shuttle will be traveling to its new home. **Richard Adams** asked if it would fly to LAX and then be trucked to its final destination. A stakeholder commented that he thinks the lawn signs may be a distraction.
9. Treasurer’s report by **Remy Kessler**. **Remy Kessler** reviewed the spreadsheet and asked for the motion to be amended. **John Walker** read the motion. **Remy Kessler** amended the motion as noted below. **Amendment received a second by Denise Welvang. Vote: Yes: 11; No: 0; Abstain: 0. Motion Carried**

**Motion: The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council has reviewed the August Bank Statements and the September Financial Statements and hereby accepts and approves them.**

**John Walker** read the amended motion.

**Amended Motion: The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council has reviewed the September Financial Statements and hereby accepts and approves them. Vote: Yes: 11; No: 0; Abstain: 0. Motion Carried**

10. Budget Committee Report by **Remy Kessler. None**
11. **VANC** Report by **Denise Welvang. Denise Welvang** reported on the VANC meeting. The ratepayer advocate was there. He explained why they need to increase the rates. Parking passes are allocated two per NC but we can get an extra one if we request it. The DONE interim manager is making some changes in the way checks are requested. The change will streamline the process. She is applying for the job as manager of DONE. There will be classes on how to be a treasurer. The VANC annual event at CBS coming up. Denise Welvang also stated that we will need to elect two representatives to participate in the NC budget advocate process. She said that the DONE interim manager is hoping our elections will be as successful as those of region one. There was a discussion about the sidewalk repair issue, the cost of repairs and how to cover it. On 9/22/12 there will be an NC congress. Register with Empower LA if you want to go. The 5th annual emergency preparedness event will take place on 10/6/12.
12. Government Affairs Report by **Rita Villa. Rita Villa** requested that John Walker read the motion which he did. **Richard Adams** said he was at the GAC meeting and he supports the motion. He feels they are in a hurry to push this through as there is a lot of money involved. There should be not unmitigatable impacts. He will attend the Universal Evolution meeting. He also said that the Toluca lake people now appear to be more in favor of the project. **John Walker** said we all have the same concerns as the other surrounding communities. Jobs, although temporary, are probably one of the reasons for the push to move this forward quickly.

**Motion: The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council objects to: (i) the adoption of the Statement of Overriding Considerations in the EIR as it acknowledges that significant impacts on the community will remain without appropriate mitigations if the project is implemented as proposed; (ii) the establishment of the Universal City Specific Plan for the reasons set forth in the SCNC response to the proposed EIR (see attached); (iii) the adoption of the Specific Plan Amendment to the Mulholland Scenic Parkway Specific Plan to amend the boundary of the Outer Corridor, (iv) the adoption of the proposed sign districts and (v) the adoption of a general plan amendment and proposed zone code changes to change the designation and zoning of the City portions of the project site to Regional Commercial from open space, minimum density residential, very low density residential, medium density residential, limited commercial and community commercial due to the location of the project site in relation to existing residential uses. Additionally, we request that more time be provided to stakeholders to review and respond to the EIR and that a specific study of the traffic impacts of the increased commercial usage, including the construction of an additional 1,000 hotel rooms and expanded theme park and entertainment retail area, be provided to the community with an appropriate time for review and response by the stakeholders.**

**Move** to amend the motion: Lisa Sarkin. **Second:** Rita Villa. **Vote to amend: Yes: 11; No: 0; Abstain: 0. Motion Carried**

**Amended Motion: The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council objects to: (i) the adoption of the Statement of Overriding Considerations in the EIR as it acknowledges that significant impacts on the community will remain without appropriate mitigations if the project is implemented as proposed; (ii) the establishment of the Universal City Specific Plan for the reasons set forth in the SCNC response to the Draft EIR (see attached); (iii) the adoption of the Specific Plan Amendment to the Mulholland Scenic Parkway Specific Plan to amend the boundary of the Outer Corridor, (iv) the adoption of the proposed sign districts and (v) the adoption of a general plan amendment and proposed zone code changes to change the designation and zoning of the City portions of the project site to Regional Commercial from open space, minimum density residential, very low density residential, medium density residential, limited commercial and community commercial due to the location of the project site in**

**relation to existing residential uses. Additionally, we request that more time be provided to stakeholders to review and respond to the EIR and that a specific study of the traffic impacts of the increased commercial usage, including the construction of an additional 1,000 hotel rooms and expanded theme park and entertainment retail area, be provided to the community with an appropriate time for review and response by the stakeholders.**

**Vote on amended motion: Yes: 11; No: 0; Abstain: 0. Motion Carried.**

13. Land Use Committee Report by **Lisa Sarkin**. **Lisa Sarkin** reported on the land use meeting as follows: (i) 11912 Laurelwood Drive - wanted owners to come back after the MND is prepared. She met with Caro Tarosian and the developer's representative and they agreed to amended conditions. No hauling during school hours. There will be a 15 foot buffer between the school and the parking garage. No balconies sticking outside of the building. No trucks staging on Ventura or Laurelwood. They will resurface from Carpenter to the Y on Laurelwood. No street blockage. There are many other conditions. They are doing 9 rather than 12 units and they will have 2.5 parking spaces per unit. The developer is trying to figure out who owns the abandoned apartment building across the street to have it removed. (ii) The Kings Head Pub - had 15 violations of the specific plan and it was renovated without permits. Richard Adams got to the heads of all the departments involved and now they have been sited and changes should happen. (iii) The CVS on Laurel and Ventura is getting a face lift but the designs that were submitted were not acceptable to the committee. An advisory subcommittee has been formed to work with CVS. **John Walker** asked about the length of the driveway.

**Motion A: The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council supports the Pizza Rev [ENV-2012-2297-CUB] on-site beer and wine license with the attached recommendations.**

**Lisa Sarkin** stated that Greg Tylor the owner/manager are here. No change of CUP is required as the Halmark Store got in where it was originally a Kentucky Chicken. The new owner has agreed to all conditions. The Land Use Committee believes we should support this. **Richard Adams** said this is a bonafide food establishment and they should be given the license. The DUI's in Studio City are mostly from those passing through not eating and living here. **Arlene Samek** asked the parking impact. **Lisa Sarkin** responded that the parking is allowable under the specific plan. **Greg Taylor** said they do not expect a parking issue. **Vote: Yes: 11; No: 0; Abstain: 0. Motion Carried.**

**Motion B: The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council supports the 2-lot split at 4435 Camellia Avenue [AA-2012-1810-PMLA] with no deviation from the Studio City Residential Floor Area District.**

**Morad Aziz** of Gorgy Engineering was present to address issues regarding Motion B. **Lisa Sarkin** explained this is property is located on the north side of Moorprk. **John Walker** read motion B. **Richard Adams** said he support this motion although he generally does not support split lots. **Richard Niederberg** said the owner could have made 3 lots rather than 2. **Vote: Yes: 11; No: 0; Abstain: 0. Motion Carried.**

**Motion C: The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council supports the Pagillacci Restaurant [ZA-2012-1537-CUB] on-site beer and wine license with the attached recommendations as amended.**

**Steve Sdelian** of TASU on Coldwater Canyon and Moorpark was present regarding motion C. They have agreed to all recommendations except the change in hours. They want to end sale of alcohol at 11 PM not 10:30 PM. **Richard Adams** said this is primarily an eating establishment. **Vote: Yes: 11; No: 0; Abstain: 0. Motion Carried.**

**Richard Adams** also commented that the Equinox project is now gone.

14. Outreach Committee Report by **Lisa Cahan Davis**. **Lisa Cahan Davis** said that tomorrow is the election and asked stakeholders to take their postcard when they went to vote. There was a forum for the candidates, the CBS newsletter had an article about the election, Patch has been a great source of information, the Studio City Chamber of Commerce sent out e-blast as did the SCRA. Board members were at the Farmers Market where the SCNC had an election outreach booth. There were three pages in the daily news about the election. Studio City library is sending out an e-blast. **Lisa Cahan Davis** also reported that we sent out a location request for pole banners in July but have not heard back yet. Lifestyle magazine is publicizing the Luminaria event. **Lana Shackelford** arrived so there are now 11 board members present. **Richard Adams** said he supports the motion. Senior Lead Officer Mike Lewis also sent out an email on the election.

**John Walker** read the motion.

**Motion: The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council approves an additional \$1,400 for election related expenses beyond the \$4000 which was "set aside" in the prior FY. This will bring our total expenses up to \$5400.**

**Vote: Yes: 11: No: 0; Abstain: 0. Motion Carried.**

15. Cultural Affairs Committee Report by **Richard Niederberg**. **Richard Niederberg** reported on the Luminaria event. He needs many volunteers to make it possible. The event will be December 2<sup>nd</sup>. **Richard Adams** said that for the assembly it needs really many people to set it up.
16. Public Safety Committee Report by **Richard Adams**. **Richard Adams** said his committee is working on several issues brought to it by stakeholders (i) the homeless problem – there is a series of steps we are going to take to try and find out the programs from the city and the county. Start steps to try to clean things up. (ii) the recycling place in Sherman Oaks is now closed so maybe the homeless are moving around. We will find out the legal constraints. We are going to try to deal with the business and residents issues. (iii) Food Trucks we are looking for information from the County. We are researching the current laws. They may reach out to food truck associations. His committee does not want to step on their toes, but they will collect the information and bring it to the board. (iv) As to the DUI accident at Ventura/Tujunga, the investigator has been assigned by LAPD and ATB. (v) The committee is also trying to determine if there are too many liquor licenses? They will compile the information and bring it again to the board. Gail Steinberg stated that even if liquor is brought in, the owner of the restaurant is still responsible to follow rules.
17. Bylaws Committee Report by **Ron Taylor**. **Ron Taylor** said this report will be handled during the special meeting agenda.
18. Transportation Committee Report by **Scott Ouelette**. **Scott Ouelette** reported that they are fixing the left turn arrows at Colfax and Tujunga and reinstalling parking meters were they were removed on Ventura Blvd. They have gotten upper Iredell parking redistricted. They are also looking at extra lanes on Laurel - three lanes north and south at peak traffic hours. The Santa Monica Conservancy will probably not eliminate the parking fee at Fryman Canyon. VICA supported measure J extending measure R tax. Hot lanes being added to the 101. No motion from the transportation committee on the Universal Evolution project as one was being brought by the GAC. CD2 is working with the Transportation Committee to increase awareness of drivers on Laurel Canyon that there are cross walks where it intersects with Maxwellton near the Carpenter Charter School.

19. Comments from Board Members on subject matters within the Board’s jurisdiction. **Richard Niederberg** said the hot lanes were a \$300 million cost for one year. This is not the best use of money. **Remy Kessler** asked about the timing of the signals at Lauren and Ventura and Ventura place going into the Trader Joes. **Lisa Sarkin** said the Plan Review Board is addressing this. **Gail Steiberg** said valets should have to indicate which restaurant the valet is parking the car for. **Lana Shackelford** said there is a left turn only sign when you exit CBS on Radford. She wondered if this is what is causing traffic at the Trader Joes intersection. **Remy Kessler** also said there is much J-walking on Ventura by parking valets. He is concerned about this at night as an accident is going to happen. **John Walker** asked about the drainage issue at Moorpark and Tujunga. He wondered what can be done as there is water there even in the hot weather.

Adjournment. **Moved:** Jeff Carter; **Second:** Rita Villa; **Vote: Yes: 11: No: 0; Abstain: 0. Motion Carried.**

