



**Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council**  
 8720 Sunland Blvd  
 Sun Valley CA 91353-0457  
 Telephone 818-767-8262  
**Website: WWW.SVANC.COM**

**Regular Board Meeting MINUTES**  
**Tuesday, May 11, 2021**  
**6:30 pm – 8:30 pm**  
**(DRAFT)**

**Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council**  
 Zoom Webinar ID #: 987 6658 0221

\* No training sessions completed, not eligible to vote \*\*No funding training, not eligible to vote on fund matters

| BOARD MEMBER                            | BOARD POSITION                            | PRESENT | ABSENT     | NOT VOTING ELIGIBLE |
|---|---|---------|------------|---------------------|
| Carbajal, Jackelyn<br>left at 8:29 pm   | Residential Stakeholder Director          | x       |            |                     |
| Chávez, Norma O. <b>Secretary</b>       | At-Large Stakeholder Director             | x       |            |                     |
| Danielian, Serj                         | Residential Stakeholder Director          | x       |            |                     |
| Fierro, Martha<br>left at 7:56 pm       | Residential Stakeholder Director          | x       |            |                     |
| García, Rosalio                         | Residential Stakeholder Director          | x       |            |                     |
| García, Steven<br>left at 7:40 pm       | Business Stakeholder Director             | x       |            |                     |
| Emilie A. Hill<br>arrived at 6:47 pm    | Residential Stakeholder Director          | x       |            |                     |
| Kumar, Bobby<br>arrived at 6:55 pm      | Business Stakeholder Director             | x       |            |                     |
| O’Gara, Mike <b>1<sup>st</sup> VP</b>   | At-Large Stakeholder Director             | x       |            |                     |
| Perez, Carmen                           | Business Stakeholder Director             |         | <b>exc</b> |                     |
| Power, Richard <b>2<sup>nd</sup> VP</b> | Business Stakeholder Director             | x       |            |                     |
| Thum, Wendy                             | Residential Stakeholder Director          | x       |            |                     |
| Vacas, Monica <b>President</b>          | Business Stakeholder Director             | x       |            |                     |
| Venegas, Eddie <b>Treasurer</b>         | Community Interest Stakeholder            |         | <b>exc</b> |                     |
| <b>TOTAL: 14</b>                        | <b>12 Present, 2 Absent, 1 Ineligible</b> |         |            |                     |

**ITEM 1:** Monica Vacas called the meeting to Order at 6:30 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Rollcall was taken by Norma O. Chávez and quorum was established with ten members present. The Code of Civility was recited.

**ITEM 2:** President, Monica Vacas, welcomed all attendees. She informed all attendees of her tour through Sun Valley and the many reports she made on graffiti and bulky items. She made the reports via the app MyLA311. She took several pictures of different areas in Sun Valley. She called the neighborhood “a city in despair”. She encouraged all attendees to make their own reports and use the application.

**ITEM 3:** Presentation from the Los Angeles City Controller, Ron Galperin

- Shared information on his background
- Got elected as City Controller eight years ago

- All the city's money flows through his office
- Works with the City Mayor, City Attorney, and 15 Council members to distribute the millions of dollars the City spends for goods and services. We do payroll for the 45 000 plus people who work for the City of Los Angeles. We do financial audits and performance audits of various departments. We do the financial forecasting and financial reports of the City.
- I started the Open Data Initiative in the City. I want to open up the doors and the windows and everything when it came to the City's finances and our operations. I deeply believe there is tremendous value in transparency so the City's operations stay honest and accountable.
- Works with the idea of three Ts: Trust, Transparency and Transformation
- Financial status of the City – we were running a short fall of about 40 to 50 million dollars a month because certain of the revenues that were anticipated were not coming in as anticipated. Property taxes continue to do very well. We saw a hit on all sorts of revenues from people coming and visiting Los Angeles; hotels tax, sales tax, and a variety of other kinds of revenues such as gas sales and sales from things people need when they are driving around. We were bolstered with 745 million dollars we received from the federal government in Cares Act money to be used for Covid-19 response. Check the City controller's website to obtain more details.
- Response to Covid-19 Crisis: vaccinations, testing, treatment
- Recent reports and resources through the office of the Controller: part of the website offers data on vaccinations tracked on a daily basis, testing and treatment, financial support, legal assistance, City services, the financial first aid kit, etc. Visit the website. There is data on the services provided through the 311 app and calls for services.
- Homelessness: it has gone up 40% in the past four years, a vast majority of unsheltered homeless, 70% of the homeless population are Africa-American and Latin x. Homeless debt has gone up 76% over the last five years. We need to focus on find areas for safe parking, safe tenting, and other ways of housing instead of permanent housing which is costly and lengthy. It is ok to have short term housing as well as long term housing.

#### **ITEM 4: EMERGENCY Personnel from Fire and Police departments**

##### **A. Officer Eric Perez**

- There is a 20% reduction in robberies
- aggravated assault is at 43 compared to 40 last year (went up slightly)
- property crime is at 56%, significant reduction in burglaries, 56% compared to last year
- 32% reduction in grand theft auto
- 26% reduction on burglary theft from motor vehicle
- over 35% decrease in other theft related crimes
- overall crime is 30% decreased compared to last year

##### **B. Senior Lead Officer Richard Wall**

- aggravated assaults, we are at 16 compared to last year at this particular time. These aggravated assaults have to do with domestic violence
- People are not locking the doors to their cars and the cars are being stolen. Please LOCK your doors
- Homelessness: over 1200 crimes committed in the Foothill division only 94 were classified as being homeless suspects which is about 7%. Crime committed in Sun Valley are not committed only by people who are from the area, but it is about 50%
- Task force for fireworks was run last year paid by CD2. No citations were made

##### **C. Sargent Jessie Ojeda**

- Officers responded to fireworks places reported and spoke to the families. The prosecution part is in charge of whether they will prosecute or not. Officers must see the person lighting the fireworks in order to give citations.
- Officers have to balance what happens once they go to the location
- Call 911 to complain about fireworks because of fire hazard
- There has to be a change at the community level and at the legislative level

#### **ITEM 5: Announcements from elected officials or their representatives**

##### **A. Tiffany Zeytounian (CD2, field deputy from Council member Paul Krekorian, (818) 755-7676, [tiffany.zeytounian@lacity.org](mailto:tiffany.zeytounian@lacity.org))**

- There is no budget for LAPD task force or any task forces: human trafficking, street racing, fireworks and the hope teams. Even if the funds were available, the LAPD has had many retirements and a hiring freeze so there is not enough men power to put together special overtime details
- Hoping to source the LAPD some resources when the new fiscal year begins on July 1<sup>st</sup>

- Homelessness – Many phone calls have been received to complain about San Fernando Road and the RV use. LAPD has been issuing citations, but people will not be required to be towed. The Department of Transportation still has policy in restrictions in place due to the pandemic. Also, the towing capacity is very limited. It takes approximately 15 days for towing a vehicle from the time that a request was made.

**B. Karla Maqueda (CD6, field deputy from Council President Nury Martinez)**

- We are having a Covid testing site at Branford Park in Arleta from Tuesday through Saturday from 9 am to 3 pm
- For more permanent testing location San Fernando Park also has testing Monday through Saturday from 8 am to 3 pm. There are about 3000 unused test going at this location. This location does not change.
- There will be a Fernangeles Park Community meeting on May 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm via zoom
- Homelessness – 4118 back in the books again.
- Clean ups have started a couple of weeks ago. There will be clean ups at a deeper level.
- May 25<sup>th</sup> homelessness motion at City council, public comment is needed
- New budget coming
- Working on the encampment on Strathern and Vineland. Trying to get the people in the encampment into housing

**ITEM 6: Comments from the EmpowerLA representative Vanessa Serrano**

- Happy to answer any questions. Most of the information has been shared either by e-mails, the monthly profile and/or the EmpowerLA newsletter.

**ITEM7: GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

**A. Heather Michaels** from the Congress of Neighborhoods Councils, one of the outreach chairs, encouraged the Council to support the Congress of Neighborhoods event in September the 25<sup>th</sup> with a donation of \$1000.00.

**B. Rudy Melendez** expressed that elected officials don't bother to come to our meetings and that shows they don't care about our community

**C. Gerardo Arroyo** – Community members are unable to use bike paths because homeless encampments are blocking them. It is not safe. City Council needs to divert funds to provide a quick solution to the use of illegal fireworks.

**D. Rosie Arroyo** – disappointed from our leaders. There is poor lighting in the community. It is no longer safe for kids to go out to play. Please invite Councilmember Paul Krekoryan and Council President Nury Martinez to talk to the community and discuss solutions.

**E. Joshua** – We need to bring parking enforcement. There are many people messing around with street lights. There was a guy with a taser, but the police couldn't do anything.

**ITEM 8: Board Member Announcements** on matters within the Executive Board's subject-matter jurisdiction that DO NOT appear on the agenda (comments only, no discussion, three minutes each).

Rick Power invited the community to get involved by joining the Board and/or joining a committee.

**ITEM 9: The Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council Board seats currently open are:**

- (3) seats available for At-Large Stakeholder (2 terms end 2023 and 1 term ends 2025)
- (1) seat available for Resident Stakeholder (term ends 2025)
- (2) seats available for Business Stakeholder (1 term ends in 2023 and 1 term ends in 2025)
- (1) seat available for Community Interest Stakeholder (term ends in 2025)

There are also one year appointed positions for:

- (2) seats available for Senior Representative Stakeholder (age 55+, 1 year appointment, term ends approximately Spring, 2021)
- (1) seat available for Youth Representative Stakeholder, (age 14-21, 1 year appointment, term ends approximately Spring, 2021)

Qualifications for all seats per the SVANC BYLAWS and STANDING RULES, further information and Candidate Filing Form are available at: <https://www.svanc.com/board-candidate-appointments>

**ITEM 10:** Presentation from LADWP on the Stormwater Capture Program Project at Fernangeles Recreational Center by Brian Powell and Ryan A, Christine Harris, and Michael Ventre. The project involves nine parks in the East Valley, including Fernangeles Park. The basic idea is that a lot of stormwater is being wasted. When it rains, the water drains and goes right into the ocean. So we are going to collect that water, save it, treat it, and use it in our water supply. The water captured from the rain will be pretreated and large sediments will be removed. In addition to adding to our water supply, it will help prevent flooding. The construction at Fernangeles Park will take place from June 2022 through November 2023. This project is funded by the State (Measure W), the County and LADWP funds. There will be concrete modular units planted underground. These units can be restocked into shapes needed. The project is 50% complete. There will be a community meeting on May 20 at 6:00 pm. The haul routes will be brought to the SVANC for discussion. The project will not disturb the buildings at the park so there should be no interruption of their inside activities. Some of the benefits in this Mayor's Green New Deal are to increase our water supply as well as to improve local water quality. We will be sourcing 70% of LA's water locally by the year 2035. This includes increasing the capture capacity of storm water to 150,000 AFY, which supplies 450,000 single-family households annually. This decreases our need to purchase water from other sources or agencies. The amenities of the park will be improved. Temporary jobs will be created.

**ITEM 11: Motion / Discussion / Vote** to appoint members to the Transformative Climate Communities (TCC) Ad Hoc Committee, chaired by Wendy Thum, to report on the TCC Grant activities with Pacoima Beautiful and the Green Together Collaborative. **1<sup>st</sup>: Rick Power moved to appoint Emilie A. Hill; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Monica Vacas**

| Yes - 10  | No - 00 | Recused- 00 | Not Eligible - 00 | Absent - 04                       |
|---|---------|-------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Carbajal, Chávez, Danielian, R. Garcia, Hill, Kumar, M O'Gara, Power, Thum, Vacas | NONE    | NONE        | NONE              | Fierro, S. Garcia, Perez, Venegas |

**ITEM 12: Motion / Discussion / Vote** to approve sending a CIS to the City Clerk regarding Council File: 11-1705, Citywide Sign Regulations/Revision on the position of the Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council regarding this file. **1<sup>st</sup>: Rick Power, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Monica Vacas.**

| Yes - 10  | No - 00 | Recused- 00 | Not Eligible - 00 | Absent - 04                       |
|---|---------|-------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Carbajal, Chávez, Danielian, R. Garcia, Hill, Kumar, M O'Gara, Power, Thum, Vacas | NONE    | NONE        | NONE              | Fierro, S. Garcia, Perez, Venegas |

**ITEM 13: Motion / Discussion / Vote** to appoint Serj Danielian as the SVANC representative to the Community-Police Advisory Board (C-PAB) to attend their meetings on the second Thursday of the month at 6:00 pm. **1<sup>st</sup>: Monica Vacas, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Mike O'Gara.**

| Yes - 10  | No - 00 | Recused- 00 | Not Eligible - 00 | Absent - 04                       |
|---|---------|-------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Carbajal, Chávez, Danielian, R. Garcia, Hill, Kumar, M O'Gara, Power, Thum, Vacas | NONE    | NONE        | NONE              | Fierro, S. Garcia, Perez, Venegas |

**ITEM 14: Motion / Discussion / Vote** to approve sending a letter to Mayor Garcetti and all City officials to add more patrols during the 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend to minimize the use of illegal fireworks and to ask for a change in legislation. **1<sup>st</sup>: Wendy Thum moved to table this item for next meeting given that the letter was incomplete and had not been published with the agenda as previously advised by EmpowerLA NEA, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Norma O. Chávez.**

| Yes - 7   | No - 03                    | Recused- 00 | Not Eligible - 00 | Absent - 04                       |
|---|----------------------------|-------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Carbajal, Chávez, R. Garcia, Hill, Kumar, Thum, Vacas | Danielian, M O'Gara, Power | NONE        | NONE              | Fierro, S. Garcia, Perez, Venegas |

**ITEM 15: Motion / Discussion / Vote** to approve writing a letter of non-support to the defunding of the police department.. **1<sup>st</sup>: Monica Vacas, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Rosalío García**

| Yes - 9  | No - 00 | Recused- 00 | Not Eligible - 00 | Absent - 05                                  |
|--|---------|-------------|-------------------|--|
| Chávez, Danielian, R Garcia, Hill, Kumar, M. O'Gara, Power, Thum, Vacas, | NONE    | NONE        | NONE              | Carbajal, S. Garcia , Fierro, Perez, Venegas |

**Monica Vacas, SVANC president, moved to extend the meeting ten minutes and Norma O. Chávez seconded it. The motion was approved unanimously.**

**ITEM 16: Motion / Discussion / Vote** to approve the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on April 13, 2021 **1<sup>st</sup>: Rick Power, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Rosalio Garcia**

| <b>Yes - 10</b>  | <b>No - 00</b> | <b>Recused- 00</b> | <b>Not Eligible - 00</b> | <b>Absent - 05</b>                           |
|--|----------------|--------------------|--------------------------|--|
| Chávez, Danielian, R Garcia, Hill, Kumar, M. O’Gara, Power, Thum, Vacas, Venegas | NONE           | NONE               | NONE                     | Carbajal, S. Garcia , Fierro, Perez, Venegas |

**ITEM 17: Report/Discussion by Committee Chairs:**

**Outreach** – Monica Vacas is proposing a food drive by the end of June

**Beautification** - Wendy Thum is proposing a Clean Energy Forum by September to coordinate with the schools, safe clean ups plans coming soon

**Planning and Land Use** - Norma O. Chávez informed the Council that Councilmember Monica Rodriguez made a motion on April 14, 2021 that affects Neighborhood Councils and the way they run their elections, eligibility requirements for Board seats (Council File No. 21-0407). The email will be resent for individual comment on this motion, but not as SVANC comment, Board members were encouraged again to visit the website of the Department of Cannabis Regulation to learn about the process of application for a cannabis storefront. This will answer many questions before members vote of proposed projects. PLUM meetings continue to take place the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month.

**Budget Advocates** – Wendy Thum

**LANCC** - Serj Danielian reported that EmpoweLA is working on a new and great website. Demographics info will be shared in the site. Use Zimas from the Planning Department website to find information about projects in the community. Discussion took place about homelessness hot spots. Graffiti reports have been made. Two people per neighborhood council need to be trained for ...

**ITEM 18: Public Comment** on matters within the Executive Board’s subject-matter jurisdiction that DO NOT appear on the agenda (comments only, no discussion, 2 minutes each). There was no comment.

**ITEM 19: Board Members Announcements** on matters within the Executive Board’s subject matter jurisdiction that DO NOT appear on the agenda. No Board Members comment

**ITEM 20: Adjournment:** **1<sup>st</sup>: Rick Power, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Rosalío García.** Meeting adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

**THE AMERICAN WITH DISABILITIES ACT** - 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, Translation Services, assistive listening devices and other auxiliary aids and/or services, may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment by email: [NCsupport@lacity.org](mailto:NCsupport@lacity.org) or phone: (213) 978-1551.

**PUBLIC ACCESS OF RECORDS** – 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 in the window of our OFFICE 8720 Sunland Blvd, Sun Valley, CA 91352 and on our website: [www.SVANC.com](http://www.SVANC.com) or at the scheduled meeting.

**Translation Services** - To ensure availability of Services or to request at least 3 business days prior to this council by contacting [secretary@SVANC.COM](mailto:secretary@SVANC.COM)

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