



Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council

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**Board Meeting MINUTES
 Tuesday, March 12, 2019
 6:30PM-8:30PM**

Meeting Location:
 The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
 8525 Glenoaks Blvd.
 Sun Valley, CA 91352
 (MAIL NOT ACCEPTED AT THIS ADDRESS)

Board Member	Roll Call	Funding Vote Eligible*	Board Position
Allen, Mark; 2nd Vice President	Absent	YES	Business/Property Owner Stakeholder Director
Carbajal, Jackelyn	Present	YES	Youth Representative Stakeholder Director
Correa, Steve; Secretary	Present	YES	Residential Stakeholder Director
Dueñas, Angelica	Present	YES	Residential Stakeholder Director
Fierro, Martha	Present	YES	Residential Stakeholder Director
Garcia, Steven; Treasurer	Present	YES	Business/Property Owner Stakeholder Director
Khalaf, Sam	Present	YES	Business/Property Owner Stakeholder Director
O'Gara, Barbara	Present	YES	Senior Representative Stakeholder Director
O'Gara, Mike	Present	YES	At-Large Stakeholder Director
Perez, Carmen	Present	YES	Business/Property Owner Stakeholder Director
Power, Rick	Present	YES	Business/Property Owner Stakeholder Director
Sower, Cindy; President	Present	YES	Business/Property Owner Stakeholder Director
Sower, Michael	Late (6:43)	YES	Business/Property Owner Stakeholder Director
Thum, Wendy	Present	YES	Residential Stakeholder Director
Vacas, Monica; 1st Vice President	Present	YES	Residential Stakeholder Director
Venegas, Eddie	Present	YES	Community Interest Stakeholder Director
(VACANT)			Residential Stakeholder Director
(VACANT)			Residential Stakeholder Director
(VACANT)			At-Large Stakeholder Director
(VACANT)			At-Large Stakeholder Director
(VACANT)			At-Large Stakeholder Director
(VACANT)			At-Large Stakeholder Director
(VACANT)			At-Large Stakeholder Director
(VACANT)			Youth Representative Stakeholder Director
(VACANT)			Senior Representative Stakeholder Director
TOTAL: 16	15 Present, 1 Absent		

*Funding vote eligibility key: A=age less than 18 yrs.; E=Ethics training; F=Funding training; N=not taken; X=expired

** Advance notice given for absence

ITEM 1: (SVANC Board & Candidate Meet & Greet is 6:00pm – 6:25pm. SVANC Board Meeting to start at 6:30pm) Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call, SVANC Code of Civility

Ms. Cindy sower announced the candidates to the board at 6:30. She called the meeting of the board to order at 6:30, leading the pledge of

allegiance. Mr. Correa called roll. Fourteen boardmembers were present. The SVANC Code of Civility was recited.

ITEM 2: Opening Remarks

Ms. Sower remarked that the meeting was to address a CalTrans project. She thanked Ms. Susan Lustig for taking over on SVANC web duties. She congratulated Ms. Carbajal for winning Royal International Ms. Golden State.

ITEM 3: Emergency Personnel from Fire and Police Departments (will always be allowed to address the board when they are ready, to facilitate their schedule)

There were no personnel present.

ITEM 4: Announcements from Elected Officials or their representatives.

Ms. Leah Gonzales, representative for congressman Tony Cardenas, congratulated Ms. Sower for her honor of California Assembly District 39 Woman of the Year. She announced that the office can help constituents with IRS, Social Security, and other federal offices.

Ms. Evaline Bravo-Ayala, representative for CA state senator Robert Hertzberg, announced that the state senator has been appointed Senate Majority Leader, and is working on the state budget.

Ms. Esmaralda Marcial, representative for LAUSD School Board Member Kelley Gonez, announced that the school board approved a ballot measure to create a parcel tax to increase funding for schools. It would be a \$0.16 per sq. ft. tax. She introduced Principal Tadeo Climaco, and the item regarding the new Center for Enriched Studies Magnet school. She announced that the school board member is in Washington DC lobbying for more school funds. She invited everyone to a picnic in the park.

Mr. Khalaf asked about the new tax, alluding to the recent teachers' strike, asking if this the method of raising taxes will be the way things will go every time.

Ms. Caroline Menjivar, representative for LA City Councilmember Nury Martinez, announced the Fernangelez Recreational Center Wild West Egg Hunt on April 13. She announced the cleanup around Sun Valley Park area, sponsored by the SVANC, on March 23.

Community Service hours, and certificates will be awarded to volunteers. She mentioned the Sun Valley warehouse for roller derby, for girls upto the age of eighteen. They do skating practices, which the council office will be partnering in on, to develop girls' leadership skills and self-esteem.

6:43 Michael Sower entered

Ms. Menjivar announced a pothole blitz, in which the council office has allocated Measure M funds totaling \$250,000 to fix roads.

Mr. Franklin Ochoa, representative for California Assemblymember Luz Rivas, joined Ms. Gonzales in congratulating Ms. Sower in her honor of the district office's Woman of the Year. He invited everyone to a Policy & Pie meeting, on March 14, 3/14, Pi day, to learn about the legislative plan of the assembly office. He announced a cleanup of the Lankershim 5-freeway off-ramp cleanup, sponsored by the SVANC, on March 22.

Ms. Jessica Orellana, representative for LA County Board of Supervisors member Sheila Khuel, announced a homeless connect day on March 21 at El Cariso Community Regional Park in Sylmar.

Ms. Sower mentioned that the 15th is International Women's Recognition Day, and thanked all the women.

ITEM 5: Announcements/updates from DONE Representative Betty Wong.

Ms. Betty Wong-Oyama was not present.

ITEM 6: Presentation LAUSD-Deputy Director Esmerelda Marcial, Deputy Director to Kelly Gonez., Sun Valley High School Principal Tadeo Climaco, Sun Valley High School Director Ari Bennet LAUSD Board Dist. 6: Regarding LAUSD Board proposal to approve Magnet Program for Enriched Studies Magnet 2020-2021.

Ms. Marcial introduced Principal Tadeo Climaco and Mr. Ari Bennet. Principal Climaco stated that the Center for Enriched Studies Magnet School designation means that the school will offer classes to students where all classes are at a college preparatory level. He had students speak on what the designation will mean for them.

Jose said that this will change the image of the school.

Sebastian said this will change the students and the community.

Said 6th graders doing AP will give provide opportunities.

Said this will push students.

Said this will have more people in and prepared.

A parent said their daughter will be graduating, but this will be good for other students. Students are not interested in school, but they can be made so.

Mr. Garcia asked what makes a Center for Enriched Studies Magnet different from a regular magnet. Principal Climaco answered that all classes are not at an entry level, that its not just about classwork. In example, the media program will have students filming outside and participating in film festivals. All courses are enriched, and comprehensive, despite them not being the major focus of a student.

Ms. Fierro invited the school to talk to the tenants of the apartment building where she resides, and manages. Principal Climaco said this that it is a goal of the school to participate and communicate with the neighborhood.

Mr. Michael Sower told the students to keep their drive to change the narrative that exists about the school.

Mr. Khalaf said this is another project, after many, and asked why this would be limited to few schools, if they are confident about this project. Principal Climaco said that the results would not show within a few months, but rather, they will show in two years.

Ms. Cindy Sower asked about 6th grade. Principal Climaco said that there will be a development of the program, and students will be grandfathered into the program.

Ms. Cindy Sower asked about the effects on the military school adjacent to Sun Valley High, and whether they will be pushed out. Principal Climaco stated that there is still room for Sun Valley High to grow, but they do have the right to reclaim classrooms. The growth of the school will depend on the success of the project.

Ms. Cindy Sower asked what the class size is at the school. It was answered that it is about 28 students, which is higher than normal.

Ms. Cindy Sower invited students present to run for SVANC Board, as Youth Representative Stakeholders, in May, when the new board is formed, and ready to make appointments.

Ms. Carbajal asked how many students volunteer, and invited them to join. She asked about the journalism program and AP classes articulation. Principal Climaco stated that the program is more holistic than programs targeted for journalism studies primarily. He stated that they have done work with the counselors to figure out which classes students should take to transfer to the schools they want to transfer, yet this is an individual by individual basis plan.

Ms. Dueñas asked if the school would be a shared space with the current students. Principal Climaco stated that the project needs approval first, before anything could start to change. Approval may take place in may, but the program would not begin until August 2020. After that, the program would still be unlikely to grow from a student population of 400 to 1200 students in a period of a year, and in a longer term, there is the possibility of shared classrooms.

Ms. Dueñas asked if Sun Valley community members would take advantage of priority admissions. Principal Climaco stated that the school is working to determine if preferential treatment could be obtained, yet the responses to date have been that the magnet program does not allow for such. What the school has done is made a plan to ensure elementary schools in the area have opportunities to enroll. He stated that it is not foreseen to be a problem, as the school has room to grow.

Ms. Dueñas asked what was being done to ensure funding for the span of students' studies. Principal Climaco answered that funding will be based on enrollment, and that they are working to bring in more students of more grade levels to raise enrollment. He stated that he is glad to have a good relation with the school board district.

Ms. Dueñas asked which grades would be affected by the start of the program in 2020. Principal Climaco answered that the application is for 6th graders, and 9th on. It would be very likely to receive permission to do 7th grade classes, yet students that pass the 6th grade program would be very likely to be grandfathered into the 9th grade program and on without even needing to apply.

Ms. Cindy Sower agreed with Ms. Carbajal that students should volunteer, as it can create opportunities. She stated that neighborhood students should get preferential treatment, as people in the area pay property taxes to have good schools.

Ms. Vacas stated that introducing 6th grade students to Sun Valley High School will be a responsibility for the current students, requiring good role models for the 6th grade students.

ITEM 7: Presentation by Cal-Trans on the I-5 Freight Corridor Construction Project. Caltrans has proposed to rebuild eight bridges that over cross the I-5 freeway. These Bridges are: Sheldon St Bridge, Laurel Cyn Blvd Bridge, Peoria St Bridge, Lankershim Blvd Bridge, Tuxford Off-Ramp over crossing, Olinda St Pedestrian Overcrossing, Roscoe Blvd Bridge, Sunland Blvd Bridge. The work entails raising the height of these bridges. (O'Gara)

Ms. Susan Tse introduced herself as the environmental planner for the project, and introduced Mr. Andy Lao as the project manager for the

project. She stated that in July 2016, governor Brown made the order to increase the standard of the bridge heights. The purpose is to remove detours, and remove damage to environmental quality in neighborhoods as a result.

The Sheldon roadway will be closed completely during bridge replacement. On Laurel Canyon, traffic can be moved to one lane on each direction. Sheldon is narrower, and one-deck, so it cannot be broken up into pieces. Laurel Canyon is two-deck, so one can be worked on at a time. Sheldon bridge replacement will take 5-6 months, and Laurel Canyon bridge replacement will take 1.5 years.

Peoria is single deck, and so will be closed completely, and last six months. Bridges that are closed completely will be accelerated construction, meaning they will be fabricated off-site, and brought over.

Lankershim overcrossing will be done in 2 stages, and take 8 months to a year.

Tuxford offramp will not need a long closure, as a new ramp will be created alongside the existing, with the older being brought down only after the newer is completed. Closure will be 2 months.

The pedestrian over-crossing will be replaced with a bike over-crossing, at a height of 18'6".

Sunland Blvd bridge will be replaced in 2 stages, over 1 year.

Roscoe Blvd will be completely closed, taking longer than usual, depending on construction, being estimated to take a year.

Benefits to the community were stated to be widened streets, sidewalk improvements, bike lanes, and trucks no longer requiring detours.

The earliest possible start of the project would be 2021. The shortest possible build is 4-5 years, with incentives possible.

Ms. Vacas stated that CalTrans and the SVANC need to work together.

Ms. Sower stated that CalTrans was not being fair with their letters mailed to few, sent to "occupant." Ms. Tse stated that the reason occupant appears is because of people wanting to opt-out of mailing lists, yet they have right to outreach letters.

Mr. Khalaf asked why the SVANC makes a fuss, when CalTrans has received orders from up high, and they merely follow them.

ITEM 8: Public Comment on matters within the Board's subject-matter jurisdiction. Members of the public are limited to two (2) minutes per speaker. NOTE: Public comments shall not be subject to discussion. This time limit may be changed at the discretion of the President depending on the number of speakers. **Skipped**

ITEM 9: Board Member Comment on matters within the Board's subject-matter jurisdiction. Board members are limited to two (2) minutes per speaker **Skipped**

ITEM 10: Committee Reports: Outreach, Beautification, Planning/Land Use, Public Citizenship Workshop, Safety/Emergency Preparedness, Election, VANC, Plan Check, LANCC, Budget Advocates, CHSRA, (Note: Finance will be heard in Item 18 and 19.) **Skipped**

ITEM 11: Motion/Discussion/Vote to approve Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) for February 2019. (A supplemental report will also be provided with anticipated expenses.)

Ms. Cindy Sower stated that the City Clerk email threatening funding should not have been sent because Treasurer Garcia had worked with Ms. Paola Posada of the City Clerk's office, and submitted items that she alluded to. She stated that after some payments made recently, the SVANC has eleven thousand eight hundred dollars. It is projected that the SVANC will end the year with a surplus, which will be rolled over due to rule changes in the City Council.

SVANC Item 11 Approve Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) for February 2019. Motion: Vacas Second: Dueñas Time: 8:35 PM		
Yes—14	No—0	Absent—2
Carbajal; Correa; Dueñas; Fierro; Khalaf; O'Gara, Barbara; O'Gara, Mike; Perez; Power; Sower, Cindy; Sower, Michael; Thum; Vacas; Venegas		Allen; Garcia

ITEM 12: Motion/Discussion/Vote to APPROVE or NOT APPROVE the Cal-Trans "Proposed Environmental Initial Study for the I-5 Freight Corridor Project." (O'Gara)

This will be a roll call vote. If approved we will vote on next item, if not approved Item 13 will be skipped.

SVANC Item 12 APPROVE or NOT APPROVE the Cal-Trans "Proposed Environmental Initial Study for the I-5 Freight Corridor Project." Motion: O'Gara, Mike Second: Venegas Time: 8:36 PM		
Yes—4	No—10	Absent—2
Correa; Khalaf; O'Gara, Mike; Vacas	Carbajal; Dueñas; Fierro; O'Gara, Barbara; Perez; Power;	Allen; Garcia

ITEM 13: Motion/Discussion/Vote to send a sketch and narrative to Caltrans outlining our vision of the look of the bridges. We recommend that there not be "barbed or razor wire, nor any chain link. We recommend wrought iron, decorative cement, and decorative light fixtures. Possibly more to come. (O'Gara)

Ms. Thum stated that the SVANC should reach out to work with CalTrans, as an alternative to the motion.

SVANC Item 13 Send a sketch and narrative to Caltrans outlining our vision of the look of the bridges. We recommend that there not be "barbed or razor wire, nor any chain link. We recommend wrought iron, decorative cement, and decorative light fixtures. Possibly more to come. Motion: O'Gara, Mike Second: Dueñas Time: 8:39 PM

Yes—14	No—0	Absent—2
Carbajal; Correa; Dueñas; Fierro; Khalaf; O'Gara, Barbara; O'Gara, Mike; Perez; Power; Sower, Cindy; Sower, Michael; Thum; Vacas; Venegas		Allen; Garcia

ITEM 14: Motion/Discussion/Vote to approve payment for the Annual Post Office Mail Box Billing of \$234.00 to the United States Postal Service (USPS).

Mr. Mike O'Gara stated that we need this post office box to pay SVANC bills.

SVANC Item 14 Approve payment for the Annual Post Office Mail Box Billing of \$234.00 to the United States Postal Service (USPS). Motion: Venegas Second: O'Gara, Barbara Time: 8:40 PM

Yes—14	No—0	Absent—2
Carbajal; Correa; Dueñas; Fierro; Khalaf; O'Gara, Barbara; O'Gara, Mike; Perez; Power; Sower, Cindy; Sower, Michael; Thum; Vacas; Venegas		Allen; Garcia

ITEM 15: Motion/Discussion/Vote to approve Earth Day Event on Saturday April 20, 2019 to be held at our office. We are inviting the neighborhood students for an OUTREACH opportunity to learn about recycling/saving water, via the Bucket Brigade program with LADWP. We will also be learning about recycling trash, planting seeds and much more. Not to exceed \$300.00. (Sower, Vacas & Thum)

SVANC Item 15 Amend Item 15 to include possible cleanup Motion: Sower, Cindy Second: Vacas Time: 8:41

Yes—14	No—0	Absent—2
Carbajal; Correa; Dueñas; Fierro; Khalaf; O'Gara, Barbara; O'Gara, Mike; Perez; Power; Sower, Cindy; Sower, Michael; Thum; Vacas; Venegas		Allen; Garcia

SVANC Item 15A Approve Earth Day Event on Saturday April 20, 2019 to be held at our office. We are inviting the neighborhood students for an OUTREACH opportunity to learn about recycling/saving water, via the Bucket Brigade program with LADWP. We will also be learning about recycling trash, planting seeds and much more. There will possibly be a cleanup. Not to exceed \$300.00. Motion: O'Gara, Mike Second: Dueñas Time: 8:42 PM

Yes—14	No—0	Absent—2
Carbajal; Correa; Dueñas; Fierro; Khalaf; O'Gara, Barbara; O'Gara, Mike; Perez; Power; Sower, Cindy; Sower, Michael; Thum; Vacas; Venegas		Allen; Garcia

ITEM 16: Motion/Discussion/Vote to SUPPORT or NOT SUPPORT City Council File Number CF 17-0656 "that the Bureau of Sanitation be instructed to report on the feasibility of banning polystyrene foam containers in the City." (Correa)

Mr. Correa stated that a report is needed to find out how much litter and landfill space is taken up. He quoted an LA city report that stated that EPS has negative effects on visual blight, property values, marine and animal life, as well as millions on city budgets, including neighborhood council budgets, through cleanups.

SVANC Item 16 SUPPORT or NOT SUPPORT City Council File Number CF 17-0656 "that the Bureau of Sanitation be instructed to report on the feasibility of banning polystyrene foam containers in the City." Motion: O'Gara, Mike Second: Dueñas Time: 8:45 PM

Yes—13	No—1	Absent—2
Carbajal; Correa; Dueñas; Fierro; O'Gara, Barbara; O'Gara, Mike; Perez; Power;	Khalaf	Allen; Garcia

ITEM 17: Motion/Discussion/Vote to write a CIS for City Council File Number CF 17-0656. This CIS will reflect the voting results of Item 16.

SVANC Item 17 Write a CIS for City Council File Number CF 17-0656. This CIS will reflect the voting results of Item 16. Motion: O'Gara, Mike Second: Dueñas Time: 8:46 PM

Yes—14	No—0	Absent—2
Carbajal; Correa; Dueñas; Fierro; Khalaf; O'Gara, Barbara; O'Gara, Mike; Perez; Power; Sower, Cindy; Sower, Michael; Thum; Vacas; Venegas		Allen; Garcia

ITEM 18: Public Comment on non-agenda Items, two (2) minutes per speaker

Ms. Cindy Sower stated that Ms. Jennifer Serrano should make announcements at the same time as elected officials, as opposed to during public comment, and she may speak.

Ms. Jennifer Serrano, from the Sun Valley Branch of the LA Public Library, announced that the Sun Valley Library has partnered with with CSUN for a tax filing program. The library still has Citizenship classes, and several other programs. There are volunteers opportunities in the Friends of the Library program.

ITEM 19: Board Member Comment on non-agenda Items, two (2) minutes per speaker

Mr. Khalaf congratulated Ms. Cindy Sower for her honor, and making us all proud.

ITEM 20: Adjournment

THE SUN VALLEY AREA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL'S WEBSITE WWW.SVANC.COM

SVANC OFFICE at 818-767-8262 or email Info@SVANC.com