



CHATSWORTH NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

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**Jeff Hammond - President, Andre van der Valk - Vice President,
Vicki Briskman - Treasurer, Jill Mather - Secretary**

Dorothy Allison, Georgia Altmayer, Kamesh Aysola, Shekhar Chikhalikar,
Mark Cox, Frank Geraty, Rob Glucksman, Daniel Huffman, Marianne King,
Jeff Mackie, Marina Mackie, Nicolas Montaña, Carey Tri, Linda van der Valk,
Jim Van Gundy, Summer Walters, Geoffrey Williams

Chatsworth Neighborhood Council Board Meeting Minutes Wednesday June 2, 2021 at 6:00 P.M.

Welcome, call to order, and Roll Call.

BOARD MEMBERS ATTENDING: Dorothy Allison, Georgia Altmayer, Kamesh Aysola, Vikki Briskman, Mark Cox, Frank Geraty, Rob Glucksman, Jeff Hammond, Daniel Huffman, Marianne King, Jill Mather, Carey Tri, Andre van de Valk, Linda van der Valk, Jim Van Gundy, Summer Walters, Geoffrey Williams

ABSENT BOARD MEMBERS: Shekar Chikhalikar, Jeff Mackie (excused), Marina Mackie (excused), Nick Montano. Four missing - There is a Quorum.

- 1. NEW BUSINESS:** All listed motions include discussion, possible action, Community Impact Statements and NPGs.
- 2. Presidents Report:** All committees except Selection have met and picked a chairperson. Stake holder members were also voted onto the committees as well.

DISCUSSION: Starting a Youth Committee ages 14-17 years of age, utilizing the high schools in Chatsworth as the candidates for the committee. It was decided that it was worth looking into and decided to continue this discussion in August.

3. Treasurers Report:

A. Motion: To approve of the March 2021 MER. (To view the MER online, visit <https://cityclerk.lacity.org/NCFundPortal/Dashboard.html> and select Chatsworth Neighborhood Council from the drop-down menu, and then click on MER.) Motion was seconded. The motion carried.

B. Motion: To approve the amended board budget dated 5/5/2021. The motion was seconded. The motion carried.

4. Representatives of elected officials or elected officials.

- A. MIKKIE LOI:** Lawyer from Devonshire Community Police Advisory Board. Fireworks complaints can be reported online at LAPDonline.org. If you are a victim of a crime, please encourage everyone to report it at LAPDonline.org. Reminder that every second Tuesday of the month at 6:30pm, LAPD Valley Traffic division holds a traffic safety discussion on zoom. 911 is reserved for life threatening reports.
- B. TARA VAHDANI:** Works for School Board Member Scott Oleson who represents 110 schools across the San Fernando Valley. Summer school offerings are divided into 3 categories – traditional summer school will be held in person this year; free summer school enrichment classes; and child supervision program Monday through Friday from 8am – 6pm.

Hosting a virtual career faire on Thursday, June 17 from 10am – 2pm for those looking for work.

Any parents or grandparents of 5th graders are able to take a workshop tomorrow at 5pm via zoom on tips on what to expect when you transition to middle school.

- C. ERIC MOODY:** District Director for Councilmember John Lee. Tomorrow starting at 11:30am – 1pm there is our business resiliency webinar. You need to RSVP on the link. We are also organizing clean ups through Matthew Hernandez at our office who can get you supplies and connections.

Last Wednesday, the Council unanimously voted to pass the Councilmembers resolution calling for the expedited closure of the Alisa Canyon facility.

Regarding the 26142 way street property - the bank is finally getting through the necessary paperwork and is filing evictions or default judgments on May 12th.

LINDA VAN DER VALK: Nature preserve water is down and are they filling the guzzlers up for the animals? **ERIC MOODY :** Had a meeting with DWP Ron – they keep the guzzlers primed and ready and they go out regularly and fill them up. They do notice animals are there.

MARK COX: Trash bins? **ERIC MOODY:** There are no bins available this year, but July 1 they get 1,000 new bin allocations so will make sure that we reserve 1 or 2 of them for that location. **MARK COX:** Can we get no parking signs up now that parking violations are coming back? **ERIC MOODY:** We have been doing signs per requests for restrictions 2am – 6am but during pandemic DOT has been prohibited from impounding or towing. They can issue a citation which usually makes them go away.

CARI TY: Just wanted you to know that there were 2 pumps going this morning at Canoga and Chatsworth with water flowing from 8am-11am when we are in a drought. This is standard when they put in a new line...it makes no sense?

VIKKI BRISKMAN: Do we have hydrants that are in the nature preserve? **LINDA VAN DER VAHL:** There are fire hydrants on the other side of the preserve that they use for helicopters to fight fires. **JIM VAN GUNDY:** On the west side they also use the snorkel. **JUDY:** There is a helicopter pad on the southern edge for firefighting helicopters.

JOHN HALES: Is there an update from Metro for the North Valley BRT? **ERIC MOODY:** No. They have been challenged with virtual meetings and their budget. Trying to set up meetings with them.

5. Standing Committees:

A. Land Use & Equestrian Committee - Committee update.

LINDA VAN DER VAHL: There are rumors that Davis Ranch is going to become a homeless shelter. Right now they have a permit for the turf field.

The Autistic Academy is relocating to Monarch School on Valley Circle and Devonshire...they are going to ask for 100 students, but only have 50.

Waiting for answers to the letters that I sent out to Senator Stern and Assembly member Gabriel.

Talked to Hannah about having someone come out to talk about the zoning codes.

B. Public Safety and Transportation Committee – Committee update.

FRANK GERATY reported: He read the letter on the below motion. They put one parking camera up on the property and a female guard, though they promised two (2) of them. There have only been three (3) reported police reports at this location.

DISCUSSION: Is the camera there LAPD or corporate camera – it is the Ralph’s corporate camera that is not being actively monitored, but it is recording. **MARK COX:** There are forms that can be filed for trespassing by the businesses that will allow LAPD arrest or site the individual(s). We should invite the person from LAPD to be able to inform us about what can be done with trespassers at a committee or a board meeting. **GEOFFREY WILLIAMS:** Concerned about calling some things a serious crime that may unfairly call out unhoused persons in the area. Want to see some of that language removed.

KATHERINE TATTERSFIELD: Echo Geoffrey’s concerns. Assault is a serious word and talked with Raul, an employee, that there have not been any assaults in the parking lot. **MARK COX:** There have been catalytic converters taken off cars and cars being broken into in the area. Unhoused and housed people are being equally victimized in this area. **MARIANNE KING:** It is an uncomfortable feeling and you do not know what is happening...agree we need some eyes on the parking lot but would be careful with the wording in the letter. **LINDA VAN DER VAHL:** The manager of Ralph’s has been assaulted at the store. There are lots of neighbors that are no longer shopping there and it could become an under-performing store and could lose the market to the community. **JOHN HALES:** The Chatsworth Upholstery was just given a certified letter saying that the city will be purchasing his place in order to put in a transitional housing project with HHH funds that will make it perhaps even more unsafe for the specific area. The businesses in the area seem to be unaware of this new project. **ANDRE VAN DER VAHL:** This will be a major, major issue for health issues and safety issues for the community.

FRANK GERATY: “It will take a long time to regain the trust of patrons”... I will remove that sentence.

1. **Motion:** To approve a letter concerning security at the Ralphs Shopping Center at 21405-21515 Devonshire St. in Chatsworth. The motion was seconded.

MARIANNE KING: When a person is specifically mentioned in the letter they should CC that person. I have only seen in Nextdoor the events that have happened at Ralph’s so I am not comfortable saying that there are serious crimes in the parking lot. **CARI TY:** I think that there are some words that are not serious crimes mentioned in the letter and they should be removed. **JUDY:** I was assaulted by a trashcan lid by a person who was accused of taking product from the store – they ran out and ran down the street, so I have first-hand knowledge of an assault.

There were two members against the letter. The balance were for the letter. The motion was passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT read by Jeff Hammond: The letter was about drifting specifically at Devonshire and Topanga Canyon Blvd. Only one police cruiser arrives to the area. A police truck on May 30th stopped and watched it but seemed to not take any license plates or even do anything about it. We would like to have a camera placed in the immediate area to record these issues. This will be addressed at a committee meeting in the future.

- C. **Outreach Committee** – Committee update.

JIM VAN GUNDY reported: Purchased the badges for the new members today. Still looking at printing / ordering the new shirts. Printing Safari is the printer and has the logo, etc. but have not heard back from them as of yet.

- D. **Community Enhancement & Beautification Committee** – Committee update.

KAMESH AYSOLA: We have work going on the Mason trees – staked most of them already. Approval to clean up the historical olive trees and will be taken care of immediately. **JILL MATHER:** The olives trees have been trimmed because there was a branch that was down that need immediate attention – on the north side of the street. South side was not trimmed.

- E. **Selection Committee** - Glenn Bailey, Neutral Third-Party report.

GLENN BAILEY: For new board members if you have not attended the Department of Neighborhood Council Core Training – there is a second session on June 26th and will have two more in July. Please take advantage of taking this training. Recommend highly.

- F. **Homeless Awareness Committee** – Committee report. Letter to

JILL MATHER: Committee approved the two goals recommended for the year. The first being to have trash bins placed in unhoused areas to assist with the

cleanliness of the encampments and the surrounding area. The first will be at Canoga and Devonshire bike path area as a test.

Second goal is to approach local businesses to provide employment for unhoused individuals such as cleaning the parking lots, etc. so that hygiene would not be an issue with payment in gift cards. We will not work on this until the trash bin goal is accomplished.

We had great education by VofA representing the Travelodge that answered many of our questions. The discussion was going too long and so we decided to end the discussion and will decide how to resume at a future meeting by committee or otherwise.

5. NC Budget Advocates Report - Region 2 BA- Glenn Bailey

GLENN BAILEY: The Mayor's office has finished their work on the budget. Budget memos are posted on the CAO.city.org – short reports if you want to see them. Budget recommendations are filed - 21-0600-S1-S101 (there were 101 different motions). The motions can affect the entire city or specific areas or concerns in the communities. Budget advocates had a meeting with the Mayor on the 20th – to listen and question.

You have two budget representatives (are stakeholders) and some new board members – there maybe some new members who may be interested in becoming budget advocates. Contact him if you are interested in that position. Jeff Hammond would have to make it happen for your agenda.

Annual budget day Saturday April 21st – you do not have to go down to City Hall but it will be virtual this year.

6. Board Member Comments & Discussion topics.

MARIANNE KING: Do we have a place where we put letters or CIS's on the website. **JEFF HAMMOND:** We do, but we have had trouble getting the person who does this posted. The instructions seem not to work for us. He and Linda have worked at trying to get this done.

MARIANNE KING: Just got a letter about re-districting and interested in what is happening. Do we just go on our own? **JEFF HAMMOND:** Suggested that she represent the council on this call and she agreed to listen into it. **LINDA VAN DER VAHL:** We must look at this because we do not want to have more than one Councilmember for our district. We can do research at Land Use, if you want.

VIKKI BRISKMAN: Bring up the retreat or special meeting that we need to have this month. **JEFF HAMMOND:** There is 47 pages of administrative DONE paperwork that everyone must read and memorize. We will pick a date that is convenient for anyone at 6:30pm until we get it done.

- 8. Public Comment – GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:**
Public Comment for **non-agendized** topics will be limited to one minute each per individual due to time concerns public comments will be limited to 10 comments.

GLENN BAILEY: Regarding re-districting, there is a deadline of December 31st but they are behind their timeline... they just hired their outreach people. The meeting next week is important for Neighborhood Councils to be involved in this so that they consider NC's boundaries. I think Chatsworth is pretty safe in it's boundaries, but the nature preserve is always an issue. Next Wednesday is the first launch of this. The NC's are the main focus of this meeting.

BRAD VANDERHOFF: Representing West Hills NC. We do not want to take over the Chatsworth Nature preserve.

9. Adjournment called for and seconded at 8:26PM.