

Minutes of the Chatsworth Neighborhood Council Board Meeting
Lawrence Middle School Library
Wednesday, June 6, 2018

Meeting was called to order by Jeff Hammond at 6:35pm.

Matt Weintraub led the pledge of allegiance.

Roll was called. In attendance were the following board members: Jeff Hammond, Andre van der Valk, Susan Eskander, Tracey Pomerance-Poirier, Dorothy Allison, Kamesh Aysola, Cher Bentley, Darlene Brothers-Wageman, Vicki Briskman, Mark Cox, Daniel Huffman, Sheldon Itzkowitz, Nicolas Montano, Michael Preis, Linda van der Valk, Jim Van Gundy, Lucie Volotzky, Dean Wageman, Anne Weaver, Matt Weintraub

Rudy Schultz was excused.

The April 4th minutes, May 2nd minutes, and May 12th Retreat minutes were approved unanimously.

The approval of the May 17 special board meeting minutes will be tabled until the next CNC board meeting.

New Business:

Board Member Motion to approve and certify that the CNC inventory/equipment list for 2017/2018 is complete and ready for submission to the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment. Motion to approve inventory passed unanimously.

Discussion ensued regarding City Councilman Ryu's proposed Neighborhood Council System Reforms (CF 18-0467).

The proposed reforms could change or alter:

- Our terms on the council, board length of terms may be affected.
- How Stakeholders are defined - A neighborhood council's ability to maintain its unique and individual characteristics, i.e., CNC is the only NC in the city that includes "boards a horse" in the definition of stakeholder.
- Control of our Selections is very critical to Chatsworth Neighborhood Council – The proposal to prohibit selections and require the LA City Clerk to conduct elections is not acceptable.
- The cost of the City Clerk managing the election is far greater than what CNC has spent. Currently our selections are the 3rd Saturday in March; city clerk-run elections would be held sometime between late March and June, without CNC being able to determine exactly when. CNC conducts selections each year with two-year terms, 11 board seats being voted one year and 10 the following year. This rotation provides a constant opportunity for the community to participate.
 - Our selections look like a "regular" election to our voters. CNC voter turnouts are consistently stronger than most NCs across the city. The only major challenge to a CNC selection was resolved when several hundred voters were determined not to be valid stakeholders.
- Voting Age – DONE is pushing to reduce the voting age to 16, currently our voting age is 18.
- Requiring specialty board seats to accomplish equity on a particular board will change the makeup of CNC. We have solid diversity on our board currently and historically.

Glenn Bailey suggested that it might be helpful to set up a meeting with Councilman Ryu's office to discuss these proposals.

A motion to write a Community Impact Statement passed unanimously. The statement will be written by Jeff H, stating CNC's desire to retain control of our selection process, retain control of our CNC stakeholder qualifications, and objecting to certain proposals set forth in the proposed Neighborhood Council System Reforms Council FILE # 18-0467.

Selection Committee needs to be established for the 2019 selection of board members. Cher Bentley, Susan Eskander, Tracey Pomerance-Poirier, Linda van der Valk and Jim Van Gundy volunteered to be on this committee.

Treasurer's Report:

Motion: To approve CNC's April Monthly Expenditure Report: Approved unanimously

Motion: To approve CNC's 2018-2019 budget: Approved unanimously

- Enrichment Committee: No update
- Land use:

Motion: To file a Community Impact Statement in support of Council File 17-1426 to Categorize and Regulate group home-related uses. Linda van der Valk read the text of this file. (see attached). Passed unanimously.

Motion – 20450 Lassen Street – To support a Conditional Use Permit for a new car wash in conjunction with rebranding of an existing gasoline service station and convenience store. It is currently a Viva Gas Station, with service bays that will be closed to make room for a snack shop. Presentation by Michael Pauls, representing the property owner. Anne asked if there would be “no loitering/panhandling” signs (Pauls answered yes); if restrooms would be for patrons only (yes), and if they would allow charity bins on their property (no). Sheldon expressed his concerns that the new snack shop would affect 7-Eleven's business next door. There were many comments and questions from stakeholders about traffic, what direction vehicles would move through the property and operation of the new car wash. Motion passed.

Board member motion by Linda van der Valk: to reconsider the June vote on the proposed project at 9110 De Soto Avenue, with a 4-story storage facility and 7-Eleven on the property where the Lamplighter restaurant was located.

A motion of reconsideration may be made only by a Board member who previously voted on the prevailing side of the original action. The aforesaid shall all be in compliance with the Brown Act.

Vote taken. Motion passed.

***If the previous motion passes a presentation of the project at 9110 De Soto Avenue will be heard and motion to follow.* This occurred.**

Motion: To support the project at 9110 De Soto Avenue with two buildings, including a 7-Eleven convenience store with gas pumps station and a household storage facility, with the following stipulations: height of storage building shall not exceed applicant's requested 45', including rooftop equipment and any future equipment additions (i.e. cell towers); no single sales of beer or wine at the store (minimum 6-packs or multi-serve bottles required); colors of storage building to be discussed and

agreed upon at a later date; landscaping shall include 36" boxed trees (as per suggestion of developer's representative), shall be maintained in good condition and shall be no less quantity than what has been shown in applicant's renderings.

Representing project: Haskel Iny (owner of property and planned Storage facility), Elia Thompson and assistant (Land Use attorney for Haskel) and Perry Seton (Senior Real Estate Rep for Corporate 7-Eleven). Elia advised that there are no height limitations for their project, but they are only asking for 45'. Concerns were expressed by board members and several stakeholders about problems at other 7-Eleven stores in Chatsworth that have many loiterers, are not well-maintained and have no security. Perry and Haskel assured that these would not be problems. Haskel doesn't want problems at the 24-hour 7-Eleven operation to negatively affect his storage facility so he will personally assure that it is maintained, although he will not own the convenience store. Land Use had been told the corporation would own the 7-Eleven, but Seton said they intend to find a franchisee. Motion passed.

- Public Safety and Transportation:

Ron Rubine, from Councilman Mitch Englander's office, gave an update on Municipal Code 85.02, which is due to expire on July 1, 2018. This limits overnight parking of vehicles in specific areas of the city. Extended by the City Council for 6 months while they discuss how to handle. Will now expire January 1, 2019.

Motion: To send a letter from the committee to Councilman Englander regarding street racing in Chatsworth. Letter read. Motion passed.

Discussion of the COLT and times of arrival for Sunday, June 10th. Volunteer sign-up sheet passed.

- Ad-Hoc Homeless Solutions Committee: No report

- Equestrian Committee: update on illegal dumping in Browns Canyon. Judge ordered property owner to stop operations in the hills above the 118 Freeway.

- Beautification Committee:

Motion: To request via a letter to have BID steam clean and power wash the Devonshire BID corridor. Passed.

- Outreach Committee: No report

- Budget Reps appointed: Susan Eskander and Kamesh Aysola

- LAPD officer report: no officer in attendance

- Jose Galdamez, DONE representative, spoke about deadlines for submitting the 2018-19 budget and other funding issues.

We will be dark in July; location for August meeting TBD.

Meeting adjourned at 9:18 pm.