



CHATSWORTH NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

P.O. Box 3395, Chatsworth, CA 91313-3395

Voice: (818) 464-3511 Fax: (818) 464-3585

<http://chatsworthcouncil.org>



Andre van der Valk, President · Judith Daniels, Vice President · Vicki Briskman, Treasurer · Carol Lucas, Secretary
Dorothy Allison · Kamesh Aysola · Jelena Csanyi · Diana Dixon-Davis · Jeff Hammond · Daniel Huffman · Mary Kaufman
Chuck Knolls · Scott Munson · Richard Nadel · George Nelson · Erik Pampalone · Linda Ross · Linda van der Valk · Jim Van Gundy
Lucie Volotzky · Matt Weintraub

JUNE 5, 2013 - APPROVED

Agenda

(1) Call to order: 7:10 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Erik Pampalone

Roll Call:

In Attendance: Andre van der Valk, Vicki Briskman, Dorothy Allison, Kamesh Aysola, Jelena Csanyi, Judith Daniels, Diana Dixon-Davis, Jeff Hammond, Mary Kaufman, Chuck Knolls, Carol Lucas, Scott Munson, Richard Nadel, Erik Pampalone, Linda Ross, Linda van der Valk, Jim Van Gundy, Lucie Volotzky, Matt Weintraub

Excused: Daniel Huffman, George Nelson

There is a quorum (19 Present).

CNC will be dark in July. The August meeting will be held at Fire Station #96 at 21800 Marilla Street, Chatsworth.

2) Public Comments

- (a)** Jeannie Plumb: The dedication papers for the three separate trail easements offered by Sierra Canyon have been finalized as a result of two years of effort. The easements have been officially recorded with the Bureau of Engineering.
- (b)** Diana Dixon-Davis: The Citizens Advisory Group (CAG) for the Santa Susana Field Group held its first meeting May, 23, 2013. The day-long meeting covered structure formation and issues. Four committees were formed. The date for the June 2013 meeting is pending. Linda van der Valk informed everyone Teena Takata is the Land Use representative for the Field Lab contamination issue.
- (c)** Jelena Csanyi: The Foundation for the Preservation of the Santa Susana Mountains is hosting the Santa Susana Trails Day on Saturday, June 8, 2013 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. Meet at the Larwin Street of the Santa Susana Pass State Historic Park entrance. Docent led hikes will begin every half-hour. Participants are welcome to bring their leashed dog on the easy to moderate hikes.
- (d)** Sylvia Lopez: In attendance at her first CNC meeting and would like to become more involved. Andre van der Valk introduced and welcomed her. She is a 3rd grade teacher at Chatsworth Elementary.
- (e)** Matt Weintraub: The first "Ride the COLT (Chatsworth Orange Line Tour)" bike rally will be held on Sunday, June 9, 2013 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. The 19-mile route begins at the Chatsworth Train Station. Riders and walkers are free to participate in shorter distances as shown on the route map which will be handed out. There are 100 people signed up as of today. The LAPD will have eight riders along the route. This event, presented by the CNC, would not be possible without the support of the major sponsors: Councilmember Mitchell Englander and Supervisor Michael Antonovich. There are a number of additional sponsors - Metro Transit Authority, Kaiser Permanente, and Chatsworth Cycle World – to name a few. CNC Board members are encouraged to assist with the event.
- (f)** Erik Pampalone: The Shops at West End Chatsworth is hosting their second annual "West End Artwalk" events on the last Friday evenings of the summer months - June 28, July 26, and August 30, 2013 from 5:30 pm to 9:00 pm. There will be art work from local artists displayed in stores, outdoor exhibits, music, food, and door prizes.

3) Announcements

- (a)** Linda van der Valk: Bea Berman won the Distinguished Senior Award at the Valley Family Festival Senior Dance last Friday. Vicki Briskman thanked Megan Cottier for her tremendous effort in organizing the event.



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(4) Approval of Minutes

The May 2013 Draft Minutes were approved.

(5) LAPD Officer Report

Danny del Valle, Devonshire: He was not in attendance. He participated in the torch run for the Special Olympics.

(6) Assemblymember Bob Blumenfield's Office

Rosalba Gonzalez – Field Representative

- Assemblymember Bob Blumenfield leaves office July 1, 2013 for his new position as a City Council Member. This is Rosalba's last meeting with CNC as his Field Representative in his position as Assemblymember. CNC thanked her for attending our meetings and keeping us informed.
- These bills made it out of Assembly by 5/31/2013. They have caretakers to monitor their progress.
 - Clean Air Vehicle Sticker- the 2015 expiration date to be extended to 2025 or 2026.
 - Vets to EMTs-Veterans who served as EMTs in military service can fast track to become licensed EMTs in California. This is in the Senate Health Committee.
 - Mobile Billboard Bill- This is to strengthen existing legislation. It is going through Committee and will go to the Senate floor for vote.
 - Budget-There is no delay. However, the educational budget is a point of contention in regards to the Governor's plan for allocation of the funds between schools. Scott asked the status on the bill for the release of felons. Rosalba replied it is a budget issue and the budget staff would need to respond. She will request an answer to be sent.

(7) Councilman Englander's Office

Megan Cottier – District Director: •She thanked Vicki for her work on the Planning Committee for the Valley Family Festival and CNC for supporting the event. •Councilman Englander's office received thank you calls from the community for the trimming of the historic olive trees along Lassen Street. Megan thanked the CNC for approving the funds for this project and having the work completed. •Councilman Englander is Vice-Chair of the Budget & Finance Committee. Megan is pleased to report the City's 2013-2014 Budget of \$7.7 billion was signed. Funding was approved for street services, tree trimming, libraries, and a longer season for public pools to stay open. A full-time staff person will be assigned six days per week for the gym at Chatsworth Park South. The Rec & Parks department has approved a plan to cap the contamination of the Park rather than a full removal and clean-up and submitted it to DTSC. The cap mediation proposal needs to be approved by DTSC. •Vicki asked if the large amount of "found" money went into the General Fund. Megan said the DOT surplus funds were most likely a result of the City not being reimbursed. She will check into the answer for Vicki. •Linda van der Valk asked if there is a possibility DTSC will require a full cleanup rather than the cap plan. Megan stated it is possible though based on conversations with DTSC the City feels confident the cap plan will be accepted. •Scott asked if the emergency fund had been pushed back up to a reasonable number. Megan affirmed and stated the amount placed in one of the funds was \$60 million. There is an Emergency Fund and a Reserve Fund. Both funds were funded and need to remain appropriately funded for the City's credit rating. Megan will follow up with the correct information.

(8) New Business & President's Report

- CNC Board Retreat: Saturday, June 15, 2013, 8:30-Noon, Radisson Hotel 9777 Topanga Canyon Blvd, Chatsworth.
- Andre asked Scott to review two Los Angeles City DVD's, "Neighborhood Disaster Planning Toolkit" and advise if the material is appropriate for a meeting.



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- Joe Bernardo, community volunteer for Mayor-elect Eric Garcetti, notified Andre that CSUN will host the Garcetti Town Hall meeting for Mayor-elect Eric Garcetti on June 12, 2013 at 7:00 pm in the Grand Salon of the Student Union.
- Approval of additional committee board and stakeholder members:
 - Linda Ross to be added to the Outreach, Enhancement, Legislative Action Committees.
 - Lucy Volotzky to be added to the Public Safety and Transportation Committee
- Committee Chairs are to send a list of Committee Stakeholders to Carol Lucas.
- Committees are tasked with either posting their agendas and minutes on the CNC website or sending the items to Rana at admin@chatsworthcouncil.org for posting.

9) Motion: To approve monthly CNC expenditures, the amended budget and other financial matters. Vicki Briskman. The hard copy is being reviewed by the Board members who did not receive the expenditures by email for a vote later in tonight's meeting. Vicki stated the \$3000 was removed as rent since CNC is not paying rent. The amount was redistributed among the categories. Some funds were removed from the website also.

10) Board Member Motions

Motion: To approve up to \$1500.00 for the concept of shirts with the CNC logo. The blue polo shirts will be for CNC Board members and Stakeholders. The white T-shirts will be give-aways at DOTH. Moved: Jelena Csanyi. Second: Mary Kaufman. **Adopted Unanimously (19 For).**

Motion: To spend up to \$1500.00 for blinds for the five small windows in the Depot Community Room. Moved: Vicki Briskman. Second: Mary Kaufman. **Adopted Unanimously (19 For).**
Linda van der Valk asked for volunteers to assemble furniture.

Motion: To support a sign on at the retaining wall on the northeast corner of the Sierra Canyon Athletic Field not previously included in the CUP for the athletic field. Presented by Lesa Slaughter, Sierra Canyon, and Joe Masada, Architect. They stated the sign will not be illuminated and they will care for the trees along the equestrian trail. Moved: Linda van der Valk. Second: Vicki Briskman. **Motion carries (15 For, 3 Opposed. 18 Board members present.)**

11) Standing Committees

a) Land Use, Linda van der Valk. Motion: To approve sidewalk/equestrian trail plans for Sierra Canyon Athletic Field to file a permit for an exemption from CUP for field. **Withdrawn.**

- Representatives for the Kaiser medical offices will be at the August Land Use meeting following the traffic study.
- 21333-21351 Devonshire Street. Melody Nursery is up for sale. Star Management is currently under contract to purchase the 60,000 square foot property which is just under 1.5 acres QC-2 commercial zoning. There is a RA-1 triangle piece of property that is back from Devonshire that runs the length of the wash. This property is located in the Devonshire/Topanga Corridor Specific Plan. They are looking at either residential, retail use or an elder care. A mixed use was also discussed. The feeling of the committee was that some kind of retail/commercial use would be a better option for the area.

b) Equestrian, Mary Kaufman. Motion: To approve an additional \$500 for DOTH to reimburse the Committee Chair for expenses paid out of personal funds for the event. Recused: Mary Kaufman. **Adopted Unanimously (17 For).**

- A 10% discount per year for up to five years for a total of 50% is available for equine licenses.



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c) Beautification, Kamesh Aysola.

- Vicki Briskman reported the beautification project at the Fire Station 96 on 21800 Marilla in Chatsworth has been completed and looks great. The project provided an additional driveway and a re-arrangement of the planters. Captain Nelson sent a thank-you letter.

d) Public Safety & Transportation, Scott Munson. Motion: To approve \$25.00 for committee printing. **Adopted Unanimously (17 For).**

e) Outreach, Jim Van Gundy: No meeting.

f) Legislative, Matt Weintraub: No quorum.

g) Enhancement, Jelena Csanyi & Richard Nadel: No meeting.

12) Motion: To approve update of the By-Laws. Moved: Judi Daniels. Second: Vicki Briskman. Opposed: Diana Dixon-Davis, Scott Munson, Matt Weintraub. **Motion Carries (12 For).**

- CNC cannot have two-year terms with staggered elections because the City Attorney only allows elections every two years (even years). The only way to have two year terms is for the full Board to run for election.
- The factual basis of the definition of Stakeholder would be up to each NC to define.
- Our Board Rules need to be amended to concur with the By-Laws.
- Update: Stakeholders can start a process to remove a Board member through a grievance process once 200 signatures are collected on a petition.
- Update: Abstentions are not to be counted in the vote.
- The City Attorney stated required additional verbiage will state after 2014 all elections will be for four-year terms.
- Update: The full Board will have two year terms. We are all up for election in 2014. After the 2014 election, the Board term length can be addressed and changed.

13) Motion: To approve monthly CNC expenditures, the amended budget and other financial matters. The copy will be emailed. Moved: Vicki Briskman. Second: Jeff Hammond **Adopted Unanimously (15 For).**

Land Use Update – June 5, 2013

Board Member motion concerning sign on the Sierra Canyon Athletic Field. A sign was painted on the retaining wall of the Athletic Field facing the field January of last year. The sign in question has a beginning height at four feet rising to twelve feet. The length of the wall is about 160 feet, although curved it makes a rounded corner. The wall is natural light only. The sign is visible from Independence and Rinaldi and also one spot on Independence south of Rinaldi. The sign at this time is covered by a tarp by order of Building and Safety. It was requested that the tarp be taken down that weekend so board members could drive by and see the sign. All board members were notified. The sign says Sierra Canyon and is painted bright blue. In the plans for the Athletic Fields more trees will be planted around the baseball field and will cut the view of the sign. In the CUP for the Athletic Field there was to be only two signs at the parking entrance. There were comments from community members Jeannie Plumb and Maureen Levitt that the sign is huge and has a major visual impact on the community. I received a letter from Gary Levitt stating that his perception is that the school



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and community were given ample time during the CUP hearings to resolve issues. What he sees with the signage is an example of non-compliance with the CUP and the desire to reward bad behavior by the Land Use Committee. Mr. Levitt also asked why the Land Use Committee was getting involved with a CUP and mentioning the Mural Ordinance to the school as an option. Mr. Levitt also suggested that I resign as Land Use Chairman now with my head held high because possibly I have been in the job too long and expediency starts winning out and sadly subjugates process. This letter was also sent to Councilman Englander. The committee decided to bring this as a board member motion because it was not on the agenda and wanted to give the full board a chance to see the sign. CUPs are amended in a life cycle of a project quite frequently.

The board member motion is to approve the signage on the Athletic Field so that it can be included in the B permit process.

14) Adjournment

10:12 pm.

Formulation of Committees (April 3, 2013, Amended June 5, 2013)

- Beautification: Vicki Briskman, Kamesh Aysola, Chuck Knolls, George Nelson .
- Enhancements: Jelena Csanyi, Dorothy Allison, George Nelson, Linda Ross, Mary Kaufman.
- Equestrian: Carol Lucas, Mary Kaufman, Linda van der Valk, Dorothy Allison, Dan Huffman, Vicki Briskman.
- Land Use: Linda van der Valk, Andre van der Valk, Mary Kaufman, Diana Dixon-Davis, Jelena Csanyi, Judi Daniels, Vicki Briskman, Jeff Hammond, Jim Van Gundy, George Nelson.
- Legislative: Carol Lucas, Matt Weintraub, Diana Dixon-Davis, Linda van der Valk, Linda Ross, Erik Pampalone.
- Outreach: Diana Dixon-Davis, Jelena Csanyi, Jim Van Gundy , Linda Ross.
- PST: Carol Lucas, Matt Weintraub, Mary Kaufman, Diana Dixon-Davis, Scott Munson, Erik Pampalone, Lucie Volotzky.

Unanimous vote on all committees

- Respectfully submitted by Carol Lucas, Secretary.