

Minutes of the Chatsworth Neighborhood Council Meeting
Lawrence Middle School Library
Wednesday, May 2, 2018

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Jeff Hammond.

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

Absent:

Minutes of the April meeting were approved.

Financial Report:

Motion by Treasurer to approve April CNC MERS. Motion passed unanimously

The board was asked to approve the three following Neighborhood Council Funding Program Letters of Acknowledgement: Susan Eskander, Treasurer; Dorothy Allison, 2nd Signer/Cardholder; Vicki Briskman, Alternate Signer. Letters of acknowledgement were approved.

The following three motions brought forth by the **Enrichment Committee** were voted on by the board and passed unanimously:

- To Approve an NPG for \$500.00 for the Chatsworth Kiwanis' Fishing trip
- To approve an NPG for \$350.00 for the Chatsworth Fine Arts Council's Art Show on May 12
- To approve an NPG for \$500.00 for North Valley YMCA's Senior Dance

Ad-Hoc Homeless Solutions Committee Report was given by Nick Montano. Nick said that the committee would not support the Safe Parking Program at the Chatsworth Methodist Church but will be looking at approximately three alternate locations.

Three motions were introduced by the **Land Use Committee**:

1. Motion to NOT support establishment of a Safe Parking L.A. program anywhere in Chatsworth as presented. The motion was amended as follows:

- The last sentence should include: "not in any residential or residential-adjacent areas".
- A sentence be added stating that the CNC be notified of any meetings of Safe Parking L.A. or any similar programs in which possible locations to house homeless persons in Chatsworth will be discussed.

A lively discussion ensued. A representative from Mitch Englander's office stated that the Councilmember and his staff are taking this issue very seriously and have stepped up their efforts to address the problem with both manpower and financial resources. There was a concern that the Council office was taking certain actions that are not in keeping with the Neighborhood Council's position on the issue. The representative assured everyone that Mr. Englander and his staff are working *with* us and will continue to keep the CNC abreast of what they are doing with regard to this issue.

Various stakeholders and board members weighed in on the issue with the following paraphrased suggestions and comments:

- City and County buildings are underutilized and should be considered for programs such as Safe Parking L.A. Churches and synagogues are not the answer.
- The city isn't doing enough as it took them 4 months to remove an RV from a residential street
- A business owner or church shouldn't be able to make a decision to house homeless persons in opposition to the community's wishes, simply because the location in question is private property.
- Don't put homeless in open spaces

Pastor Ruy Mizuki from Chatsworth United Methodist Church spoke about how society should support those who are less fortunate and discriminated against. While he will not be partnering with Safe Parking L.A., he did not directly answer the question of whether he would continue to allow homeless people to park overnight in his Church parking lot.

After discussion was concluded, the CNC voted on the Land Use Committee's recommendation to *not* support the Safe Parking L.A. program, with noted amendments. The motion carried, with one no vote.

2. Motion to support the development of a storage facility and a 7-Eleven convenience store at 9110 De Soto Avenue, the site of the old Lamplighter. After a brief discussion the motion did not pass, with four voting in favor, 12 voting against, and 3 abstentions.

3. Motion to support subdivision of RA-1 lot into three equal, parallel lots at 22180 Chatsworth Street. Motion passed with three voting to oppose, and one abstention.

One motion was introduced by the **Public Safety & Transportation Committee**:

Motion to approve \$850 for the Emergency Preparedness Fair which will take place at the Northridge Mall. The motion passed with one abstention.

COLT event on June 10th needs volunteers. Anne and Vicki signed up to Volunteer.

Equestrian Committee Report on Day of the Horse. Event was extremely successful. Approximately 800 attendees. Great location.

One **Beautification Committee** Motion:

Motion to support a San Fernando Valley Arts Council letter requesting space for an art center in the Westfield Development in Woodland Hills. Vote was unanimous to support letter.

One **Outreach Committee** Motion:

Motion to move unspent funds previously allocated for printing, tables and chairs, into the promotional items category in order to purchase additional giveaway items. Motion passed unanimously.

After public comments pertaining to graffiti on the water tower on De Soto and dumping in Brown's Canyon, the meeting was adjourned at 8:54pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Tracey Pomerance-Poirier