

Minutes of the Chatsworth Neighborhood Council Meeting
Lawrence Middle School
Wednesday, March 6, 2019

Jeff Hammond called the meeting to order at 6:07p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Nicolas Montano.

Roll was called.

In attendance: Jeff Hammond, Andre van der Valk, Vicki Briskman, Tracey Pomerance-Poirier, Dorothy Allison, Kamesh Aysola, Cher Bentley, Darlene Brothers-Wageman, Mark Cox, Sheldon Itzkowitz, Nicholas Montano Rudy Schultz, Linda van der Valk, Jim Van Gundy, Lucie Volotzky, Dean Wageman, Matt Weintraub.

Absent: Michael Preis, Anne Weaver (both excused), Susan Eskander and Dan Huffman.

Minutes of the February 6, 2019 meeting were passed unanimously.

Jeff reminded everyone to attend their committee meetings. Also, the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils 16th Anniversary Mixer will be held on Thursday, March 14 at CBS Studios. Chatsworth Neighborhood Council is a sponsor. At this point, there is a waiting list to attend.

Treasurer's Report:

- A. Motion to approve the January 2019 MER. Passed unanimously.
- B. Motion to approve an NPG in the amount of \$750 for Save Chatsworth, for three Native American storytellers at the Nature Preserve open house on April 6, 2019. Passed unanimously.
- C. Motion to move \$200 from the COLT advertising budget into the COLT food budget (overseen by Outreach Committee). Passed unanimously.
- D. Motion, requested by Outreach Committee, to approve \$900 for website updates to handle COLT registrations. Passed unanimously.

Land Use Committee:

1. Deemed by the Land Use committee a reasonable project, **motion to support** the demolition of 1,300 sq. ft. of an existing building and the construction of a new building of approximately 75,118 sq. ft. Project includes: 9629-9655 De Soto, 290900-21000 Superior Street, 20901-21001 Itasca Street related to DIR-2019-489-SPR. Motion passed unanimously
2. **Motion to oppose** Senate Bill 50, which would allow for the construction of apartments within a half-mile of a rail station or a quarter-mile of a bus stop with frequent service. Motion passed with one abstention.

No Public Safety & Transportation report.

Homeless Awareness Committee:

1. Motion to approve the use of the CNC logo on the West Valley Neighborhood Alliance on Homelessness flyers for the upcoming Chatsworth (March 30) and Canoga Park (April) informational fairs. Motion passed unanimously.

Equestrian Committee:

Dean Wageman was concerned that the City had not given formal approval of Day of the Horse (April 14 at Ride On on Topanga). Ron Rubine assured the CNC that the event will in fact happen and there is no need for concern. Dean reported that he had contacted the Los Angeles Equestrian Advisory Committee, which has funds available for restoration of horse trails. State and/or federal matching funds could be available for trails if they are considered restoration projects. Dean to pursue this.

Beautification Committee:

Kamesh Aysola reported that the Chatsworth Fine Arts Council requested \$2,500 for a mural to be painted. Since they are looking at a mural location that is private property, we cannot assist them, however, they can fund the project with private donations.

Outreach Committee:

Jim Van Gundy asked for volunteers to sign up to work a shift at the CNC booth at the following upcoming events:

- March 17 – The Rededication of the Stagecoach Trail
- April 6 - Nature Preserve Open House
- April 14 - Day of the Horse
- April 28 - Garden Festival
- June 9 - COLT (Chatsworth Orange Line Tour)

Selection Committee:

Cher Bentley announced that help is needed the day of the selection (March 16).

The **Candidate Forum** began at 6:45pm with Glenn Bailey explaining how things would work, including how questions would be submitted, length of time candidates had to speak, etc. Cards were passed out so that people present could write down questions to ask the candidates.

Each candidate was given up to two minutes to make an opening statement.
Candidates who made opening statements were as follows:

Dorothy Allison, Dan Huffman (not present, so statement was read by Cher Bentley), Renee Grace Rodriguez, Ryan Roberts, Olga Alonzo Litton, Don Paul, Vicki Briskman, Shekhar Chikhalikar, Kamesh Aysola, Spencer Goldbeck, Jeff Mackie, Marina Mackie, Eugene Butler, Steve Columbus, Mark Cox, Jeff Hammond, James Yeager, Maie Abed, Summer Walters (not present, so statement was read by Cher Bentley).

Four questions chosen by the selection committee were posed to each candidate:

1. For the incumbents: Why do you want to return? For the newcomers: What have you done within the last year that has benefited Chatsworth?
2. Are you dedicated to keeping Chatsworth rural, and how do you feel about limited growth and the preservation of Chatsworth's horse trails?

3. If you're not elected at the upcoming selection, will you stay active, attend meetings and participate in the CNC's various committees?
4. What would you do to help alleviate homelessness?

The forum concluded after all of the candidates had the opportunity to answer each of the questions. Glenn then thanked members of the Selection Committee and mentioned that candidate statements were available on CNC's website, ChatsworthCouncil.org. Glenn reminded everyone that the selection is taking place on March 16 from 11am to 5pm at the Chatsworth Train depot. He explained the definition of stakeholder, and reminded everyone to bring proper documentation with them to vote. Flyers containing detailed information about the selection were passed out.

Public Speakers:

- Lorraine Lundquist, candidate for CD 12 introduced herself.
- Ron Rubine, from Councilmember Greig Smith's office, stated that Equestrian signs had been approved. Additionally, they are trying to get approval for the plaques. Also, the city has instituted ways to make it easier to report homeless individuals via online, email and text message.

Board Member comments:

- Linda van der Valk announced that Virginia Watson, historian and co-founder of the Chatsworth Historical Society passed away.
- Dorothy Allison thanked Vicki Briskman, Linda van der Valk, and Judy Daniels for all the work they do for the CNC.
- Matt Weintraub thanked Jeff and Marina Mackie for taking over as the Chairpersons of COLT.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:48pm in Virginia Watson's memory.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Tracey Pomerance-Poirier