

Minutes of the Reseda Neighborhood Council - Board Meeting
Monday February 2, 2009
Reseda Neighborhood Council Office
18341 Sherman Way Suite 102, Reseda, CA 91335

1. **Call to Order** Chairman Peter Hankwitz, called meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance** was led by John Stanwright
 - A. Roll Call Present at the meeting were Peter Hankwitz, Cary Iaccino, Lee Smith, Anna Measles, Garth Carlson, Phil Merlin, Ann Kinzle, Kimberly Hill, Jim Luis, Magdy Abdala, and D. J. Frank (arrived 7:37 p.m.)
 - B. Absent were Faye Nia, David Alvarez, Timothy Mulholland
3. There were 11 in attendance and 3 absent. Quorum present.
4. **Introduction of City Employees and other visitors**
5. **Review and Approval of RNC Minutes from:** General Meeting January 20, 2009; Executive Meeting January 29, 2009; plus automatic approval of future Executive Meeting Minutes when Board quorum is not present at any scheduled Executive Meeting, provided such Minutes revise only the date and time of the previously approved version. Motion by Jim Luis second by Garth Carlson to approve the Executive Meeting from January 29, 2009 plus as stated above agenda item. Motion approved by unanimous vote.

Motion by Jim Luis second by Garth Carlson to approve General Meeting January 20, 2009 baring any substantive concerns that come up in the future.
Motion approved by unanimous vote.
6. **Public Comment and Announcements -**
None
7. **Reseda Neighborhood Council Board Vacancy:** We are currently accepting applications to fill one vacant Board seat. Any qualified Stakeholder may apply, and there may be a vote (if necessary) held at the General Meeting on March 2, 2009. Should more than one eligible Stakeholder choose to run for the open seat, all Stakeholders in attendance at the meeting may vote.
Peter Hankwitz read Item 7 regarding RNC Board Vacancy.
8. **Presentations and possible action regarding City of Los Angeles Measure B, the “Solar Energy and Job Creation Program”.** Presentations from: James Unger from the “Yes on Measure B” Committee; Heinrich Keifer, Chairman of the “No on Measure B” Committee; and Simone Taylor, Government and Neighborhood Liaison, LADWP

John Stanwright, Jeff Black, Dr. Daniel Wiseman spoke in opposition to Measure B.
James Unger spoke in favor of Measure B.
Motion by Cary Iaccino second by Jim Luis the RNC oppose Measure B.

Amendment by Jim Luis that RNC opposes Measure B due to the failure of the City Council to inform the Neighborhood Councils in a timely manner as according to the Charter of the City of Los Angeles.

Motion was approved by unanimous vote.

9. RNC Officers – Action / General Reports

(a) Peter Hankwitz, Chair: General Report -

- The importance was stressed that each member of the Council Board serve on at least one committee actively.
- All committees are open to all stakeholders.

(b) Faye Nia, Vice Chair: General Report - Absent

(c) Lee Smith, Treasurer: General report, plus Finance Committee Report

Lee Smith, Treasurer: General report.

1. General Account - \$94 740.82
 2. RNC petty cash - \$735.43
 3. RNC Stored Value Care - \$1,047.29
 4. Total \$96,523.54
 5. Currently \$48,788.84 for projects leaving an available balance of \$47,734.70.
- ii. Item 10(A)(2) was reviewed and approved at Finance Committee Meeting held on November 8, 2008.
 - iii. Finance Committee met with two requests to review. (1)(Item 10(C)(1) Item 10(C)(2). Items were found to be within allowed budget and approved.
 - iv. Lee Smith will not be in attendance on February 16, 2009.
 - v. Peter Hankwitz stated if a funding request does come up while Lee Smith is on vacation, the Chair can attend the meeting for the purpose of achieving a quorum.

(d) Cary Iaccino, Secretary: General Report, RNC Procedural Manual and Website Update

- Procedural manuals have been updated.
- A draft of the procedural manual has been sent out to the Board.
- Website update - Waiting for input from the Board.

10. RNC Committees – Action / General Reports

(a) Outreach / Public Relations Committee (Garth Carlson, Chair):

- i. General Report

- 6500 English Newsletters and 1500 Spanish Newsletters printed.
- A 6-page newsletter was printed in its entirety with Chairman's recap of last years RNC accomplishments.
- Timothy Mulholland's 13 year-old son submitted an article for the newsletter.
- Jim Diamond and Phil Merlin were thanked for helping with the newsletters.
- 1500 Spanish translated newsletters will be printed. Volunteers are needed to help fold, stuff, and count the newsletters.
- Information is needed for the weekly email.
- Peter Hankwitz reminded Board Members that a Motion was passed that requires all Board Members to submit an article or other information for the newsletter each month.

ii. **MOTION FROM COMMITTEE:** The RNC shall be authorized to spend up to \$650.00, i.e. 1.3% of the RNC's annual budget, on a third party contract for electronic delivery services for the 'Weekly RNC Outreach Emails' and the RNC's monthly newsletter. Upon authorization, such expenditure shall be subject to prior Finance Committee approval, and any contractual transaction(s) must be completed within sixty (60) days or this authorization shall become invalid. The time limit expired on this motion, previously and unanimously approved at the General Meeting, November 3, 2008.

Motion by Phil Merlin second by Ann Kinzle to approve the above motion as stated.

Motion approved by unanimous vote.

(b) Graffiti Outreach Sub-Committee (Garth Carlson, Acting Chair): General Report

- A Graffiti Town Hall is being planned hopefully by April 2009.
- Graffiti Committee will meet in the RNC office February 9, 2009.
- Adopt A Wall Policy forms are being prepared.
- Graffiti Committee has decided to rent a billboard in Reseda.
- Ann Kinzle suggested taking pictures of the walls with graffiti before being painted for Police investigation.

(c) Youth Advocacy Committee (Garth Carlson, Acting Chair): General Report

- i. **MOTION FROM COMMITTEE:** To allocate \$500 to purchase an ad in the 9th Annual Valley Wide Student Art Show program. This is Sponsored by the Arts in Education Aid Council subject to Finance Committee approval.

Motion by Garth Carlson second by Ann Kinzle that RNC shall allocate \$500.00 to purchase an ad in the 9th Annual Valley Wide Student Art Show program.

Cary Iaccino second by Garth Carlson amended Motion to read that the RNC shall allocate \$500.00 to purchase an ad in the 9th Annual Valley Wide Student Art Show program. This sponsored by the Arts and Education Aid Council to Finance Committee approval.

Motion denied by 5 nays, 3 yeas, and 4 abstentions.

- ii. **MOTION FROM COMMITTEE:** To allocate up to \$500 to purchase CDs, DVDs and Audio Books for the West Valley Public Library Youth Collection subject to Finance Committee approval.

Motion by Jim Luis to table Motion until next meeting for further discussion about ways to amend it to involve some of the other professional organizations.

Motion denied by 6 nays, 5 yeas.

Motion by Garth Carlson second by Phil Merlin the RNC shall allocated up to \$500 to purchase CDs, DVDs and Audio Books for the West Valley Public Library Youth Collection subject to Finance Committee approval.

Motion passed with 8 yeas, 2 nays, and 2 abstentions.

- (d) Neighboring Council Liaison Committee (Cary Iaccino, Chair): Report on Committee start-up.

- One Community member application received this week and possibly two others are expected to start the Neighboring Council Liaison Committee.
- Members of the Board and Stakeholders are invited to join the Committee.

11. Unfinished Business

- (a) Report on items that have been in the “allocation” column of RNC budget for an extended period of time. Open discussion on length of time that funds should be unspent. {Tabled Item 11(a) from January 20, 2009 General Meeting}

Lee Smith - A spread sheet was distributed to Board Members of allocations for review. Some items mentioned were: New Member Expense \$197.00;

Printer's Laptop \$5.00; Neighborhood Watch Signs \$1,000.00; Block Parties \$500.00; Twenty Thousand Youth Directory \$600.00; Reseda High School Police Academy \$500.

Peter Hankwitz - He stated that Officers of Board have to find Minutes from RNC meeting, look at the way the Motion was written, approved and stated in order to find out what action can be take with the allocations not spent.

Ann Kinzle - Stated that \$7000.00 was allocated for the center median lighting.

Peter Hankwitz - He stated that no allocation was actually made by RNC for funding for the center median lighting. A motion from Committee is needed before presenting to the Board.

Peter Hankwitz - Stated that high dollar amounts needs a process for allocation.

Garth Carlson - Port-a-Potty's, booths and tables for youth in amount of \$8,000 was for a specific date last September and should be taken off.

Peter Hankwitz - If action is to be taken by Board on the allocations, a Committee can't just arbitrarily say yes or no. It has to be put on the agenda in order to let the public know RNC it is no longer going to fund that item.

Peter Hankwitz - An ad hoc Committee exists with the Officers of the Board, and all concerns should be directed to the Officers.

Peter Hankwitz - Jim Luis was named as Chair of the Research Committee to look into the matters of reallocation.

Peter Hankwitz - Every allocated expense of \$500.00 or more; or is more than two years is to be reviewed by RNC.

- (b) Big Sunday (May 2-3, 2009): Project ideas and brainstorming. What can the RNC do to make sure Reseda receives its share and accomplishes various goals? For more information or to volunteer, contact Phil Merlin, pmerlin@resedacouncil.org. {Tabled Item 12(a) from January 20, 2009 General Meeting}

Phil Merlin requested Item be kept as an ongoing Agenda item.

- (c) Discussion of possible shuffling of committee membership and chair positions in order that a change in leadership and membership may allow for new ideas to emerge and more participation in 2009. {Tabled Item 12(b) from January 20, 2009 General Meeting}

- Cary Iaccino - There is a concern about how committee functionality slid at end of 2008. There was a discussion of what can be done to reinvigorate RNC Committees.

- It was suggested that all RNC Board Members should Chair or be a member of at least one committee, and preferably two committees.
- All Committees need to be active.
- Board Members gave their input to increase participation in the various Committees.

12. New Business

- (a) Discussion of the RNC meeting minutes and having them available in a timely manner for future meetings. (Jim Luis)

Item 12(a) was dismissed by Jim Luis.

- (b) Discussion of the RNC involvement at The San Fernando Valley's 2nd Annual Children's Day "A Salute to Kids" at Woodley Park. This event is scheduled for November 21, 2009. (Ann Kinzle)

- 50,000 people attended the San Fernando Valley's 2nd Annual Children's Day. If Reseda wants to get its name on the ballot an RNC booth could be obtained.
- The event is scheduled for November 21, 2009.
- Event be included on the next Agenda was requested.

13. New Agenda Items for the next General Meeting of the RNC Board - None

14. General Announcements and Upcoming Events

- (a) Former RNC Board Member Barbara "Bobbe" Adams passed away on January 23. If/when we receive details of services for her, we will relay through an RNC email.
- (b) Meeting location change for the RNC General Meeting, Monday, February 16, 2009. This meeting will be moved to February 17, 2009 due to the federal holiday of President's Day. The meeting will likely be at American Legion Hall, 7338 Canby Avenue, in Reseda. Please be sure we have your contact information in our database, so you will receive an email confirmation of the location on Friday, February 13th.
- (c) There has been a change in how these speed limit increases will be handled by the City in the future. Neighborhood Councils will be asked for their recommendations by the Department of Transportation (DOT) early in the process. (Cary Iaccino)

15. Adjournment at 9:30

Minutes respectfully submitted by Maggie Shumaker