

**Minutes of the Reseda Neighborhood Council - General Meeting
Tuesday, February 17, 2009
Councilman Zine's CD3 District Office
19040 Vanowen Street, Reseda, CA 91335**

1. **Call to Order** Chairman, Peter Hankwitz, called meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance** was led by Jose Martinez
3. **Roll Call** Present at the meeting were Peter Hankwitz, Faye Nia, Cary Iaccino, Anna Measles, Magdy Abdalla, Garth Carlson, Kimberly Hill, Phil Merlin, Timothy Mulholland
 - A. Absent were Lee Smith, David Alvarez, D. J. Frank, Ann Kinzle, and Jim Luis
 - B. There were 9 in attendance and 5 absent. Quorum present.
4. **Introduction of City Employees and other visitors**

Jose Martinez - Field Deputy - Councilman Zine's Office.

 - Neighborhood Watch Meeting (Reseda, Winnetka, Canoga Park) 155 people attended. Councilman Zine was the guest speaker.
 - Posse Meeting February 18, 2008 from 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. at Councilman Zine's Office.
5. **Review and Approval of RNC Minutes from:** General Meeting February 2, 2009

Motion by Garth Carlson second by Magdy Abdalla to approve General Meeting Minutes of February 2, 2009
Motion approved by unanimous vote.
6. **Public Comment and Announcements** (Speaker Cards are requested.) 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. **Councils and the Department of Transportation (DOT). Discussion and possible action regarding: (a) Proposed speed limit increases in the Valley; and (b) the upcoming Memorandum of Understanding between Neighborhood** There has been a change in how proposed speed limit increases are to be handled. The DOT will now ask affected Neighborhood Councils for recommendations early in the process. A DOT Representative will present information.

Motion by Garth Carlson second by Magdy Abdalla that the RNC approves of the DOT's proposed recommendation to increase the speed limit on Tampa, Sherman Way, and Roscoe Boulevards from 35 to 40 miles per hour.
Motion approved with 7 yeas, 0 nays, 2 abstentions.
9. **RNC Officers – Action / General Reports**

(a) Peter Hankwitz, Chair: General Report

- People working behind the scene for RNC were thanked.
- Positive comments regarding Timothy Mulholland son's article were made.
- The Committee process was clarified.
- Committee recommendations should be phrased in writing as closely as possible what the Committee would like the Board to do.
- Vice Chairs should be elected or appointed for Committees, recommendations should be submitted to Faye Nia.
- The absences of David Alvarez was discussed
- Timothy Mulholland volunteered to Chair the Emergency Disaster Committee.

(b) Faye Nia, Vice Chair: General Report

- She stated she is looking forward to a new year of working hard to amend RNC's By-laws.
- Magdy Abdalla was welcomed to the Outreach Committee.
- A Constitution and By-laws Committee meeting is being planned for the near future.
- A new list of memberships for all Committees was requested.

(c) Cary Iaccino, Secretary: General Report, plus Website Update.

- Website progress is being made and should be up and running in approximately 1 week.

10. RNC Committees – Action / General Reports

(a) Finance Committee: General report (Phil Merlin, Committee Member }

- Finance Committee met, reviewed and approved two recommendations from Outreach Committee Budget stated in 10(C)(1&2)

(b) Outreach / Public Relations Committee (Garth Carlson, Chair): General Report.

- No meeting for Outreach Committee due to no quorum.
- Magdy Abdalla was welcomed to the Outreach Committee.
- Those who helped with the newsletter were thanked.
- Three articles from Board Members were received before the 20th deadline for the newsletter.

(c) Graffiti Outreach Sub-Committee (Garth Carlson, Acting Chair):

- i. General Report
- ii. **MOTIONS FROM SUBCOMMITTEE:**

1. “That the RNC allocate up to \$150 for use of the Reseda High School Auditorium for the Graffiti Town Hall Meeting.”

Motion by Garth Carlson second by Timothy Mulholland that RNC allocate up to \$150 for use of the Reseda High School Auditorium for the Graffiti Town Hall Meeting.

Motion was approved by 7 yeas, 1 nay, 1 abstention.

2. “That the RNC allocates up to \$1200 for renting 1 or 2 billboards.”

Motion by Garth Carlson second by Timothy Mulholland that the RNC allocates up to \$1200 for renting 1 or 2 billboards.

This allocation expires in 60 days.

Motion was approved by unanimous vote.

11. Unfinished Business

- (a) Big Sunday (May 2-3, 2009): We are seeking ideas and volunteers, and/or any comments. *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.

Phil Merlin

- He requested that this Item remain on future agendas until the event happens.
- Faye Nia wants to speak to her church’s Youth Group regarding how they can sign up to volunteer.
- Web page for Big Sunday is bigsunday.org.

Garth Carlson

- Projects submitted for Big Sunday go on the website. Volunteers can look through the list of projects available and sign up them.

12. New Business

- (a) Report on Councilman Dennis Zine’s ‘Drive Thru Reseda’ and possible projects on which the RNC can partner with the Councilman’s Office. (Cary Iaccino)

Projects Councilman Zine would like put into motion in 2009:

- Downtown business district street scape project (center median, landscaping, etc.)
- Community Cleanup downtown central business district.
- Look into establishing ownership based business improvement district to generate funds to be kept in Reseda in the business area.
- Various community projects (camera location, lighting to cut down on crime).
- Cutting down on overnight parking by putting up signs.

- Median cleanup on Sherman Way from Vanowen to Corbin.
- Need to cut down on street vendors
- Graffiti sting operations.
- Reseda Park (parking issues, pool)
- Strengthen Posse Program in Reseda

(Meeting February 18, 2009 at 6:00 - 8:00 at West Valley Station in the Community Room)

(b) Report on change to the funding requirements for Neighborhood Councils. Grants will now be allowed to various non-profit organizations, pursuant to the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment's newly revised guidelines. This Grant program will also work with schools. (Cary Iaccino)

- RNC received a Neighborhood Purpose of Grant packet to grant funding to various organizations without having to provide a service or invoice.

13. New Agenda Items for the next General Meeting of the RNC Board

Peter Hankwitz - Any stakeholder can request an item to appear on the General Meeting Agenda.

14. General Announcements and Upcoming Events

(a) The Los Angeles City Council has **voted to end free-metered parking for alternative fuel and hybrid vehicles**, as of March 1, 2009.

(b) Magnolia Science Academy (MSA) is proud to announce that our Future City Club has won the Southern California Regional Competition. MSA will be representing California at the National Engineering Week Finals competition in Washington D.C. during the week of Feb 16th to 19th. [From Press Release]

(c) Kimberly Hill announced her resignation effective March 1, 2009 due to pregnancy.

(d) Peter Hankwitz - When there is a resignation RNC has to post vacancy for two consecutive board meetings before reseating someone on the board.

(e) Peter Hankwitz -Elections on March 2, 2009 for currently vacant seat vacated by Maria Hernandez. March 2, 2009 will be the first official posting of the newly vacated seat by Kimberly Hill.

15. Adjournment at 8:23 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Maggie Shumaker