

Minutes of the Reseda Neighborhood Council - General Meeting
Monday November 17, 2008, 2008
Canoas Banquet Hall
18136 Sherman Way, Reseda, CA 91335

- 1. Call to Order** - Chairman Peter Hankwitz, called meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance** - was led by Officer Para
- 3. Roll Call** Present at the meeting were Peter Hankwitz, Faye Nia, Cary Iaccino, Lee Smith, Garth Carlson, Anna Measles, D. J. Frank, Timothy Mulholland, Phil Merlin, Ann Kinzle, Kimberly, Hill, Jim Luis, Magdy Abdulla.
 - A.** Absent were David Alvarez, Maria Hernandez
 - B.** There were 13 in attendance and 2 absent. Quorum present.
- 4. Introduction of City Employees and other visitors**

Jose Martinez - Field Deputy - Councilman Dennis Zine
Officer Para - Senior Lead Officer for West Valley
Grayce Liu - DONE
- 5. Review and Approval of RNC Minutes from:** General Meetings October 6, 2008, October 20, 2008, and Executive Meeting were approved.
November 3, 2008 tabled until next meeting.
- 6. Public Comment and Announcements** (Speaker Cards are requested.)
None
- 7. RNC Officers – Action / General Reports**
 - (a) Peter Hankwitz, Chair: General Report.
The Chair to submit a Year End Report at the second meeting in December.
 - (b) Faye Nia, Vice Chair: General Report
A Chair is needed for Youth Advocacy Committee.
 - (c) Lee Smith, Treasurer: General Report, plus Finance Committee Report
 - i. Total Available funds.
 1. General Account \$108,921.51
 2. RNC Petty Cash - \$759.66
 3. RNC Stored Value Care - \$1,047.29
 4. Total \$110,728.46
 5. Currently \$49,624.86 for projects leaving an available balance of \$61,103.50.
 - ii. Monies spent since last meeting: -Scholarship Award Dinner \$1,479.00; Mailings - Planning & Zoning Committee and DONE \$130.00; AT&T \$89.00; Recording Secretary \$250.00; Labels for Newsrack Stands \$736.00; La Tortilla Loco \$120.00; Office Supplies \$314.00; Folding Machine Repair \$131.00; Holiday Decoration Installation \$4,050.00; Refrigerator Magnets \$629.00; Business Cards and Name

Plates for New Members \$198.00; Reseda Ranch Block Party \$485.00. Total \$8,611.00

- iii Three items were approved by the Finance Committee -
 - 1) \$1,500.00 to purchase paper for RNC newsletter and colored flyers.
 - 2) \$500.00 to help Reseda Elementary School fund a new music program.
 - 3) \$600 to fund electronic transmission by a third party for the weekly emails and monthly newsletter for one year.

(d) Cary Iaccino, Secretary: General Report

No Report

8. RNC Committees – Action / General Reports

(a) Planning & Zoning Committee (D. J. Frank, Chair):

- i. General Report - Planning and Zone Committee met on November 6, 2008. Presentation was made for mixed-use development at the corner of Sherman Way and Wilber.
- ii. **MOTION FROM COMMITTEE:** “The Reseda Neighborhood Council approves of the proposed plan to construct a 73 unit apartment building with associated Commercial Space at 18900 Sherman Way, provided that there is a minimum of 112 parking spaces for the residential apartments, and an appropriate number of parking spaces for the commercial use, in two separate lots, and shall issue such approval in writing to the applicant.”
Development of mixed-use commercial/residential project. 18900 Sherman Way (Southwest corner, Wilbur and Sherman Way). Request to construct 73 unit apartment building and 3,045 square feet of Commercial Space on a 54,000 square foot lot, with 119 parking spaces.

Motion approved by 10 yeas, 1 nay, 2 abstentions

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

- i. General Report - RNC is currently publishing over 6,000 English and Spanish newsletter delivered to 160 locations. Requested public to sign the list on back table to receive the newsletter.
- ii. **MOTION FROM COMMITTEE:** Motion to allocate \$1,500 to purchase paper for newsletters and colored paper for flyers.
Motion passed by unanimous vote.

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

- i. General Report - A request was made for volunteers to join the Outreach Committee. The Committee meets each Tuesday after RNC Monday meetings at 7:00 p.m. in the RNC office.
Input from the community is needed to inform RNC what places the graffiti exists in order to make a list. Volunteers are needed to paint out the graffiti.
- ii. **MOTION FROM COMMITTEE:** Motion to create a budget of \$2,000 towards future projects.

Motion withdrawn

(d) Youth Advocacy Committee (Garth Carlson, Acting Chair):

- i. General Report A meeting time is being considered for the Youth Advocacy Committee.
- ii. **MOTION FROM COMMITTEE:** Motion to approve an allocation for \$500 to help Reseda Elementary Fund its music program.
Amendment to Motion by Garth Carlson second by Phil Merlin to approve the expenditure of previously allocated fund up to the amount of \$500.00 to help Reseda Elementary Fund its music program.
Motion approved by 12 yeas, 1 nay.

9. Unfinished Business

None

10. New Business

- (a) Peter Hankwitz - Election to the Board took place 1 year ago on this date.
- (b) Discussion of Big Sunday. What should the RNC's involvement be with this event?

Garth Carlson - RNC was not involved with Big Sunday last year. The previous two years RNC was very much involved. RNC should be involved this year as it is a great community get together. An email was received stating anyone interested in participating in Big Sunday should join in a Holiday event at the offices on Beverly Blvd. on December 14, 2008 between 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Phil Merlin - He was involved the two years that RNC was involved. Landscaping and a large amount of beautification in Reseda was completed. The One Center' interior was painted. City will provide all the materials. An Ad Hoc Committee was suggested.

Anna Measles - She stated the first year she worked with the Boy Scouts during Big Sunday.

Peter Hankwitz - It is remarkable the whole city turns out for this one event.

D. J. Frank - Wanted a definition of Big Sunday.

Peter Hankwitz - Big Sunday happens across the country in many communities. The city of Los Angeles has adopted this as a yearly program. Community groups from non-profit organization, churches, businesses, neighborhood councils find projects within their own area community to volunteer.

Peter Hankwitz - An Ad Hoc Big Sunday Committee is a great idea. Anyone interested in getting involved in this committee or any other Committee of RNC should send an email to rnc@resedacouncil.org

- (c) Discussion of the process that the RNC uses to support/oppose various measures, propositions, and other political issues. Discussion of possible guidelines.

D. J. Frank - He stated that members of the Board's votes are secret. RNC should not vote if there are Propositions on the ballot.

Phil Merlin - RNC should take a strong effort to have both sides present. The proponents or the opposition should be put on the Agenda.

Jim Luis - RNC represents the stakeholders of Reseda, not their votes.

Faye Nia - A uniform policy needs to be written for RNC. Guests who make presentations call RNC to be put on the Agenda. To find an opposition would mean RNC is inviting them.

Peter Hankwitz - For discussion a Standing Committee could be put in place to reach out to the opposition.

Magdy Abdalla - RNC represent the stakeholders, not necessarily to vote. It's okay to come and express a point of view.

Jim Luis - Everyone should be heard that comes to the meeting. Motions are not necessary on everything. Contacting the opposition is not RNC's responsibility.

Timothy Mulholland - Speakers are informative, concise, and increase knowledge regarding the issues, and should be welcomed.

D. J. Frank - States he does not want RNC seen as a propaganda forum for one side. However, if the opposition doesn't show up, the speaker who does show up should not be censored. An invitation should be sent out by RNC to the opposing side. If an issue comes up that would benefit Reseda, then RNC should vote on it.

Faye Nia - The opposition should not be invited. The opposition should check the RNC Agenda and show up to present their point of view.

Peter Hankwitz - Guidelines to be set up by Constitution and By-Laws Committee.

Raul Galardo - He stated the Board should not take a stand on political issues.

Jim Hill - He stated it should be left open to a platform position to state the position, but not vote on it.

Ann Kinzle - The opposition should check the RNC schedule and come to the meeting to present their side.

- (d) Peter Hankwitz - RNC is precluded from carrying out private meetings, or emails regarding matters that may appear on an Agenda.

11. New Agenda Items for the next General Meeting

Peter Hankwitz - Any stakeholder may request an agenda item for the next General Meeting.

Peter Mulholland He requested those attending the meetings to turn off cell phones and pagers.

Kari Thumlert - Proposed giving a small donation to the Red Cross to help fire victims.

Peter Hankwitz - RNC needs to check with the city, as there is a problem with donations and gifts to non-profit organizations. Legally RNC is prohibited from doing so. The city has changed its policy, but not publicly known as yet.

12. General Announcements and Upcoming Events

Ann Kinzle - Officer Appreciation Day November 20, 2008 at West Valley Station.

Garth Carlson - At the Neighborhood Watch Meeting stickers were handed out to put on blue recycle bins as a reminder it is against the law to remove items from blue bins. He requested public take stickers on the back table and put on their blue bins.

Jim Luis - West Valley Table Tennis Association has opened up table tennis at 7020 Reseda Boulevard.

D. J. Frank - Holiday lights are up

Garth Carlson - Coalition on Gangs, LAPD presenting Children's Day at Woodley Park

13. Adjournment - Meeting was adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Maggie Shumaker