

**Minutes of the General Board Meeting of the
RESEDA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL (RNC)
Monday, January 19, 2010**

American Legion Hall, 7338 Canby Street, Reseda, CA 91335

1. Call to Order

Chair Cary Iaccino called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Jerry Hill.

3. Roll Call

Roll Call was taken by Secretary Chaparyan. Board Members present:

Cary Iaccino, Chair, Business
Daryt J. Frank, Vice-Chair, Business
Lee Smith, Treasurer, At-Large
Vahan Chaparyan, Secretary, Residential
Garth Carlson, Board Member, At-Large
Noell Guzman, Board Member, Business
Jerry Hill, Board Member, At-Large
Anna Measles, Parliamentarian, At-Large
Faye Nia, Board Member, Business

Board Members absent: Magdy Abdalla, Sergeant-At-Arms, Residential; Ann Kinzle, Board Member, Business; Jim Luis, Board Member, At-Large; Phil Merlin, Board Member, Residential; and Timothy Mulholland, Board Member, At-Large.

Nine of the 14 Board Members were present at the beginning of the Meeting, which is a quorum, so the Board could make Motions and take votes. Also attending were 20 Stakeholders and Guests.

4. Introduction of City Employees and other Visitors

L.A. City Controller Wendy Greuel (213-978-7200; <http://controller.lacity.org>) and Jose M. Martinez, Field Deputy for L.A. City District Three Councilman Dennis Zine (818-756-8848; Jose.M.Martinez@lacity.gov), were introduced, as were LAPD West Valley Division Senior Lead Officers Royal Barber (818-374-7634, cell 818-731-2580; 33970@lapd.lacity.org) and Daryl Scoggins (Office 818-374-7632. Cell 818-731-2573).

5. Public Comment and Announcements

Mr. Martinez distributed an "Earthquake Recovery Project Questionnaire"; they're seeking 30 people for an Advisory Committee and input by the end of February regarding what projects Stakeholders want. He distributed a flyer for and announced the "Third Council District's Town Hall Meeting," Tuesday, February 2nd at 6:00 p.m. at West Valley Christian Church, 22450 Sherman Way, West Hills. Mr. Martinez also distributed a flyer and announced to "Invite you to the Ceremony for the Renaming of

West Valley Park in honor of fallen SWAT Officer Randal D. Simmons” Thursday the 28th at 11:00 a.m.

[The following was reported after Item #10) a).] Officer Barber distributed Basic Car Crime Maps and reported that the 2009 goal to reduce crime by 10% was met; the 2010 goal is to reduce crime by another 5%. He reported local crime statistics; recently, the major crimes in Reseda have been burglary theft from vehicles. He encouraged everyone to “get to know your neighbors; call the Police if you see anything suspicious.” There’ll be a Neighborhood Watch Meeting February 11th at 7:00 p.m. at the West Valley Community Police Station (19020 Vanowen St., Reseda; 818-756-8542, 818-374-7611; http://www.lapdonline.org/west_valley_community_police_station). [Www.Nixle.com](http://www.Nixle.com) has crime statistics.

6. Reseda Neighborhood Council Board Seat Election

[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #10) c).] Mr. Iaccino announced that the only candidate is Juan Guzman. Mr. Guzman introduced himself; he’s a small construction business owner, born and raised in Reseda, and wants to help build Reseda’s potential. There was discussion regarding the voting procedure. Mr. Iaccino cited RNC Bylaws language.

The Board **APPROVED** Mr. Guzman as an RNC Board Member, with eight in favor; Ms. Guzman abstained. Mr. Iaccino will administer the Oath of Office to Mr. Guzman at the next General Board Meeting.

7. Review and Approval of RNC Minutes from General Meeting January 4, 2010.

MOTION (by Mr. Iaccino, seconded by Mr. Chaparyan): to approve the Minutes of the January 4, 2010 General Board Meeting as written.

MOTION PASSED without any objections; Mr. Frank and Ms. Nia abstained.

8. RNC Board Administrative Matters

Ms. Measles was concerned and there was discussion regarding how the Minutes Writer signs the General Board Meeting Minutes.

MOTION (by Ms. Measles, seconded by Ms. Nia): for the General Board Meeting Minutes Writer, at the end of the Minutes, to write his or her complete name.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Frank stated that “the purpose of the Minutes is to have an objective record of the Meeting.” Ms. Nia added that “if, down the line, we need to . . . we have a snapshot of what happened.”

MOTION FAILED on a Roll Call vote as follows: three “Yes” votes (Measles, Nia, Smith); five “No” votes (Carlson, Frank, J. Guzman, N. Guzman, Hill); two abstained (Chaparyan, Iaccino).

9. RNC Officer – Action / General Reports

Chair

Mr. Iaccino yielded his time.

Vice-Chair

Mr. Frank said that there was no report.

Secretary

Mr. Chaparyan yielded his time.

Treasurer: Treasury and Finance Committee

Mr. Smith distributed a “[RNC] Account Balances as of 1/19/2010” worksheet and reported that the Finance Committee met. Recent allocations include \$500 for Constant Contact; \$1,000 for the YMCA pool re-opening; and \$3,000 for two senior symposiums. He “won’t tolerate using the [NC] credit card for multiple expenditures of less than \$1,000” to split the cost of anything that costs \$1,000 or more. The NC is allowed to have two signatures on the credit card. The General Account started with (approximately) \$104,682; Petty Cash, \$457; Credit Card Stored Value, \$1,047; the Overall Total was \$106,187; Allocations were \$64,089; and the Balance was \$42,097. On June 30, 2009, Bank of America confirmed that the debit card was closed February 11, 2009; however, the remaining funds have not been accessible and that’s why the “Credit Card Stored Value” of \$1,047 keeps being carried forward.

10. New Business

a) GUEST SPEAKER: Los Angeles City Controller Wendy Greuel.

[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #5.] Controller Greuel (213-978-7200; <http://controller.lacity.org>) explained that her Office has three divisions: Audit, Financial Reporting, and Payroll and Benefits Payments; and about the City’s financial situation. She announced that they’ve already released at least nine audits, including last week’s audit of the L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment [DONE], which was requested by DONE General Manager BongHwan Kim. They found that financial oversight and training were “lacking” and Budget Reconciliations and Demand Warrants were “not processed in a timely manner . . . DONE is ill-equipped to manage its current responsibilities . . . There is a systematic failure of accountability and oversight . . . There was a \$5.6 million discrepancy between what DONE thought they had and what was available.” They’re working with DONE to insure that NCs have funds to meet their obligations. The audit is available on the Controller’s website.

Ms. Greuel also described the audit process and that they can work with the City Attorney for enforcement. They’ll also be auditing the DWP Renewable Energy Program and are seeking ideas regarding other things to audit. The Controller’s Office will be losing 17% of their staff, the second-largest loss in the City, to early retirement. The next audit will be of the City’s surplus property; she’d like all proceeds to go to the General Fund, which is not the current policy.

- b) **PRESENTATION:** Rick Nahmias of Food Forward will present.
Mr. Nahmias distributed small flyers and described Food Forward, a fully-insured non-profit organization: it “brings together volunteers and property owners from around Los Angeles” to collect fruits and vegetables for donations to food pantries to feed people. Tax-deductable donations can be from one or more trees that gives abundant fruits or vegetables. You can sign up to donate or volunteer at www.FoodForward.com. Mr. Carlson added that Food Forward is linked to the www.ResedaCouncil.org website.
- c) **PRESENTATION:** Mr. Doug Plank of MobilCause will present.
Mr. Plank described that MobileCause (www.MobileCause.com) helps people text during emergencies via SMS technology, “a cost-effective way to stay in touch”; and, that texting now exceeds e-mailing. He can be texted at DPlank27138. Mr. Iaccino indicated that the NC would like to schedule a General Board Meeting presentation. Mr. Carlson would like Mr. Plank to present MobilCause to the RNC Emergency Preparedness Committee.

11. RNC Committee Actions

Outreach Committee

RECOMMENDATION FROM COMMITTEE: [see below Motion]

Mr. Carlson thanked Ms. Measles, Mr. Merlin, Mr. Smith and Nyla for staffing the YMCA pool re-opening booth; the NC got lots of e-mail sign-ups.

MOTION (by Mr. Carlson, seconded by Ms. Guzman): the RNC shall allocate up to \$500 to begin sending the weekly email and the monthly newsletter out via Constant Contact.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Carlson stated that \$500 is “more than enough for a year . . . The monthly fee [is] \$30 per month . . . We’d have to decide to renew it or not.” He described the service and recommended setting it up as an annual budget line item.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call voice vote.

Liaison Committee

City Budget update

Mr. Iaccino relayed that Committee Member Michael Cohen asked and it was agreed that this Item be **TABLED**.

Economic Development Committee

General Report {Tabled item 11(g) from January 4, 2010 meeting}

Mr. Iaccino noted Ms. Kinzle could not attend this Meeting and there was no report.

12. Old Business

Review of budget allocations. {Tabled item 10a from January 4, 2010 meeting}.

Mr. Smith requested to TABLE this Item and Mr. Iaccino agreed to agendaize it for the next General Board Meeting.

13. New Agenda Items

No new Agenda Items were presented.

14. General Announcements and Upcoming Events

a) American Cancer Society Relay for Life of Reseda Summer of 2010
Mr. Iaccino announced that the American Cancer Society is bringing the Relay For Life fundraising event to Reseda and they're seeking volunteers.

b) Big Sunday is on May 1st and 2nd
Mr. Iaccino relayed from Mr. Merlin that the Big Sunday community volunteering event will be May 1st and 2nd.

Mr. Carlson announced that the final YMCA pool re-opening party will be January 30th and requested volunteers for the RNC booth.

Mr. Carlson also announced the Sunday, January 31st, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Red Cross CPR – First Aid Training Program at the American Legion Hall [7338 Canby Street, Reseda]. Attendees who complete the training will receive a certificate. Fifty signed up and they're looking for a few more attendees. Stakeholder Larry Bowman indicated that the Trainer needs to be paid. Mr. Iaccino replied that he'll be meeting with Rodger Shimatsu, DONE Management Analyst, and will address this. Mr. Bowman offered for the American Legion to pay the Trainer and wait for NC reimbursement.

Mr. Frank announced a Planning and Zoning Committee Special Meeting Thursday, January 28th at 6:00 p.m. at the NC Office regarding the park [proposed for the corner of Wilbur Ave and Strathern St.].

15. Adjournment

Mr. Iaccino declared and the Meeting **ADJOURNED** without objections at 9:09 p.m.

Minutes written by DL.