

**Minutes of the General Board Meeting of the
RESEDA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL (RNC)
Tuesday, February 16, 2010**

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

1. Call to Order

Chair Cary Iaccino called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

3. Roll Call

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

Cary Iaccino, Chair, At Large
Daryt J. Frank, Vice-Chair, Business
Lee Smith, Treasurer, At Large
Vahan Chaparyan, Secretary, Residential
Magdy Abdalla, Sergeant-At-Arms, Residential
Garth Carlson, Board Member, At Large
Juan Guzman, Board Member, Business
Noelle Guzman, Board Member, Residential (late)
Anna Measles, Parliamentarian, At Large
Phil Merlin, Board Member, Residential
Timothy Mulholland, Board Member, At Large
Faye Nia, Board Member, Business

Board Members absent: Jerry Hill, Board Member, At Large; Ann Kinzle, Board Member, Business; and Jim Luis, Board Member, At Large

Eleven of the 15 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 19 Stakeholders and Guests.

4. Introduction of City Employees and other Visitors

LAPD Sergeant Walter Hanna introduced himself [after Item #8].

5. Public Comment and Announcements

There were none at this time.

6. Review and Approval of RNC Minutes, General Meetings January 19, 2010 and February 1, 2010.

MOTION (by Mr. Merlin, seconded by Mr. Carlson): to approve the Minutes of the Jan. 19, 2010 General Board Meeting as written.

MOTION PASSED.

MOTION (by Mr. Merlin, seconded by Mr. Carlson): to approve the Minutes of the Feb. 1, 2010 General Board Meeting as written.

MOTION PASSED.

7. RNC Board Administrative Matters

There were no administrative matters at this time.

8. CRA Reseda Project Area Update: Brian Pendleton presenting the latest updates. [This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #4.] Brian Pendleton, Project Manager, Community Redevelopment Agency, West Valley Region (818-593-5490; BPendleton@cra.lacity.org; www.crala.net), briefly described the 72-unit Sherman Village, at Wilber Ave., and the 98-unit Canby Woods (seniors housing), and that they're in a "highly competitive bidding process." He also reviewed the Reseda Theatre project; they're "looking for a developer . . . not a general contractor." The CRA retained ownership and has the first right of refusal. He described other projects and funding challenges.

9. L.A. City Budget Update and the potential impact on RNC funding. Mr. Iaccino described that he attended a City Education and Neighborhoods Committee Meeting to fight for NC funding. It was encouraged to contact City Councilmembers. There was extensive discussion regarding encumbered projects and funding challenges, and the NCs funding situation.

10. Discussion and Possible Action: There is an outreach process underway; the RNC is included with a potential cost of \$4,568.50 for a direct mailing campaign. Mr. Iaccino described a potential direct mail campaign for NC elections.

11. RNC Officer – Action / General Reports

Chair

Mr. Iaccino said there was no report.

Vice-Chair

Mr. Frank said there was no report.

Secretary

Mr. Chaparyan said there was no report.

Treasurer: Treasury and Finance Committee

Mr. Smith distributed a "[RNC] Account Balances as of 2/16/2010" worksheet, saying that the figures were based upon the full rollover funds amount of \$85,000. He reported that the General Account started with (approximately) \$99,703; Petty Cash, \$893; Credit Card Stored Value, \$1,047; the Overall Total was \$101,844; Board-Approved Allocations were \$59,686; and the Balance was \$43,958.

Two budgets were submitted to DONE [the L.A. Department of Neighborhood Empowerment], one with the rollover and one without. There's been no official word from DONE regarding the rollover status. Mr. Smith distributed a "Register Report, 7/1/2009 through 2/16/2010" and a "brief outline of RNC budgets / expenditures / balances." He described some of the Register Report totals, including \$22,922 in Demand Warrants for outstanding commitments. DONE announced that the petty cash program is suspended. Michael Cohen, RNC Government Liaison, described different NC funding proposals; the funding function may be given to an outside non-profit vendor.

12. New Business

- a. **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:** The RNC opposes the sale of City Assets solely for the purpose of decreasing our Budget Deficit.
[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #12d.] Mr. Iaccino asked and it was agreed to TABLE this Item.
- b. **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:** The RNC endorses the concept of increasing Neighborhood Council input in our City's executive and legislative bodies. Specifically, RNC requests that the Mayor and City Council appoint NC Representatives as "ex officio" members to the Specific (Mayoral) Task Forces and City Council Committees.
Mr. Iaccino asked and it was agreed to TABLE this Item.
- c. **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:** [see below Motion].
[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #4.] Mr. Iaccino read the proposal.

MOTION (by Mr. Carlson, seconded by Mr. Mulholland): The RNC recommends and I move that a scaled salary decrease for ALL of the City's highest paid salaried employees; 20% for employees whose salaries are over \$200,000, 15% for employees whose salaries are between \$100,000 and \$200,000 and 10% for employees whose salaries are between \$90,000 and \$100,000.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Abdalla recommended a Motion telling the City to "balance the budget." There was extensive discussion regarding the fairness and applicability of the Motion.

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION (by Ms. Measles). There were no objections.

MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote with six in favor (Carlson, Chaparyan, Frank, Juan Guzman, Noelle Guzman, Mulholland) and four opposed (Abdalla, Measles, Merlin, Smith).

Mr. Mulholland had to leave at this time.

- d. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: The RNC suggests that the Mayor, City Council and L.A.P.D. consider restoring our “sworn” Police Officer’s work schedule from three 12-hour days per week to five 8-hour days per week. Stakeholder Monica Harmon recommended to TABLE this Item and described different officers’ schedules, saying “99% of the Police Departments in the United States use a flexible schedule” depending upon functions and conditions. It was agreed to TABLE this Item.

13. New Agenda Items

- a. DISCUSSION: Community Tree Planting. A non-profit organization is looking to plant 100 trees in Northridge, near the border of Reseda. They have asked to present to the RNC regarding this project.
[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #12b.] Mr. Iaccino asked and it was agreed to TABLE this Item.
- b. DISCUSSION: Any items the RNC Board would like to see taken up before the RNC elections in May.
No additional Items were mentioned.

14. General Announcements and Upcoming Events

- a. American Cancer Society Relay for Life of Reseda Summer of 2010.
Mr. Carlson announced the next Relay For Life Meeting Wednesday night at the West Valley Police Station; the Relay will be June 26-27 at Reseda High School. The event is a 24-hour walk around the track to raise money for the American Cancer Society. The Committee will meet February 25th at the RNC Office.
- b. Big Sunday is on May 1st and 2nd (www.BigSunday.org).
Mr. Merlin said there’re no projects or volunteers yet. Mr. Iaccino volunteered. Stakeholder Larry Bowman announced a St. Patrick’s Day Dance and Dinner March 12th, 5:00 -11:00 at the American Legion Hall. Admission is \$10. Mr. Carlson reported that a horse arena and tots playground are being considered for the park proposed for the corner of Wilbur Ave and Strathern St. Mr. Cohen announced a Budget Representatives Meeting Friday with the Mayor’s Office.

15. Adjournment

Mr. Iaccino **ADJOURNED** the Meeting without any objections at 9:23 p.m.

Minutes written by DL.

Approved by Vahan Chaparyan