**PANORAMA CITY NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

**GENERAL BOARD MEETING AGENDA**

**Virtual Meeting**

**Thursday November 18, 2021 6:30 PM**

**Minutes**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Board Members** | **Roll Call** | **Position** | **Board Members** | **Roll Call** | **Region** |
| Chris Q. Martinez | Present | Member | Perla Iliana Lagunas Abundez | Present 6:40 | Member |
| Gurgen Mkrtchyan | Present 7:03 | Member | Ron Collins | Present | Member |
| John DiGregorio | Present | Chair-2nd Signer | Joe Taylor | Present | Member |
| Lanira Murphy | Present 7:20 | Treasurer | Oscar Robles | Present | Member |
| Michael Hasz | Present | Vice Chair-Alt Signer | Luis Zapata | Absent | Member at Large |
| Martha Cortez | Absent | Secretary-2nd Bank Card | Adam de los Santos | Present 7:02 | Member |
| Tony Wilkinson | Present | Member | Marisa Persaud | Present 6:38 | Member |
| Scott Boundy | Present | Member | Severiana Pablo | Present | Member |
| Jonathan Martinez | Present | Business Member | Andy Rodriguez | Removed | Alternate |
| Michelle Klein-Hass | Removed | Member | Amelia Mendoza | Absent | Alternate |
| Pamela Gibberman | Present | Member | Karen Oropeza | Absent | Youth Rep |

**1. Call to Order** and Welcome **(Board Chair** John DiGregorio**)** The meeting was

called to order by John DiGregorio at 6:32pm, with 11 members in attendance at

that time.

1. **Roll Call** of Board members or alternates (the quorum is 11).

See above for Roll Call.

Also present were: Jose Galdamez (NEA, Department of Neighborhood Empowerment), Betsaira Aguilera (Field Deputy, East Panorama City, Los Angeles City Council District 6), Bart Trevino (San Fernando Valley Partnership) and Spanish-English interpreters Sthefanie Garcia and Erinn Calderon.

Additional guests were: Charlie Waymire, Lisa Schulte, Siomara, Keelers, Alex Farzan, Vicken B. and Moses Joharian.

1. **Reports from LAPD & other relevant law enforcement agencies. Senior Lead Officer Bronk [38980@lapd.online (818)-644-8017] covers Mission Traffic Division. Senior Lead Officer Sean Smith [(818-838-9842, mobile 818-442- 3183, 35183@lapd.online)] covers Panorama City's North and Center-East districts. Senior Lead Officer Daniel Ruelas [(818) 838-9847, mobile 818-679-2082, 34435@lapd.online] is responsible for Panorama City south of Roscoe. Emergency: 911. Mission Division Front desk: 818-838-9800. Non-emergency: 877-ASKLAPD (877-275- 5273).** Not in attendance.
2. **Officers’ Reports for relaying updates on NC Business not being discussed in other agenda items. *This item is strictly for reporting and not intended for Board discussion or action.* Not to exceed 2 minutes each.** 
   1. **Vice Chair’s Report:** All Land Use Committee members are now required to complete the Planning 101 training by December 1 to maintain voting eligibility at board meetings.

The City of Los Angeles is holding Strength & Love, a three-day virtual COVID memorial, starting tonight. Citizens are invited to applaud outside their front door each night at 8:00.

* 1. **Treasurer’s Report:** Not yet in attendance.
  2. **Secretary’s Report:** Not yet in attendance.
  3. **Equity Officer’s Report:** Not yet in attendance.
  4. **Chair’s Report:** No report.

1. **Reports from Elected Officials' field staff and other Neighborhood Agencies/Committees.** Not in attendance.

***Please Keep Reports to 2-3 minutes maximum to allow time for questions from the Board and Public***

* **DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOOD EMPOWERMENT** (Jose Galdamez): Neighborhood Councils should start incorporating language into their agendas from the newly approved AB 361, which is going into effect. The City will distribute a template and vetting will begin soon to make sure Councils are implementing these changes.

BONC will be agendizing the approval for each Neighborhood Council board to meet virtually, for the safety of the public while in a declared emergency.

Members must keep track of their trainings through the Neighborhood Council website and complete expired trainings. The Anti-Bias training is due by November 30 and must be completed no later than the next board meeting on December 16 for members to maintain eligibility to vote.

* **CALIFORNIA CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 29** (Lea Gonzalez): Not in attendance.
* **LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 6** (Betsaira Aguilera): Thank you to everyone who helped in last month’s clean-up at Sepulveda Recreation Center. More will be planned for the future. A drive-through food giveaway will be held at the Sun Valley office on Laurel Canyon Boulevard, starting at 9:00am on November 22. Funds will be available for homeowners unable to afford Internet use over the pandemic.
* **LOS ANGELES CITY MAYOR'S OFFICE** (Caroline Menjivar): Not in attendance.
* **LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, DISTRICT 6** (Michael Menjivar): Not in attendance.
* **LOS ANGELES COUNTY SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 3** (Jessica Orellana): Not in attendance.
* **CALIFORNIA ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 46** (Laura Coronado): Not in attendance.
* **CALIFORNIA SENATE DISTRICT 18** (Eveline Bravo-Ayala): Not in attendance.
* **RECREATION AND PARKS** (Oscar Cardenas): Not in attendance.
* **BUDGET TRIBUNES** (John and Lanira): No report.

1. **Public Comment and General Announcements** 
   1. **Limited from 2-5 minutes at the discretion of the presiding officer**
   2. **Limited to non-agenda items**
   3. **Speaker cards will be made available if attendance is significant**
   4. **During Virtual Meetings, use the ‘raise your hand’ feature to be added to the speaker queue by the Board**

**Secretary. The Chair will recognize speakers in the order specified by the queue.**

-Charlie Waymire: Our street has been increasingly dealing with crime – with RVs, encampments and generators running all the time on our street – and we’ve had no luck getting any response from the City, even after contacting them for a couple years. There are a lot of businesses on the block, all paying business taxes. But all these people are camped outside. The City has agreed to cleanups, but they’ve been limited and the trash returns immediately. Someone has threatened to shoot people at night. Nothing’s been able to get done about the situation.

-Vicken B.: My business on Saticoy Street was broken into at 3:00am on 10/12/21, with quite a bit of damage. People block the sidewalk and fire hydrants with their trash and generators and they block our driveway with their RVs. We are unable to take orders by phone, due to the noise from the generators and motorcycles.

-Alex Farzan: I’m an attorney and a co-owner of one of the buildings on Saticoy. I think the situation on Saticoy is a complete abomination of law enforcement. I’m afraid to walk on this street, I’m afraid to look these people in the eye. They’re people who are freeloading and trying to take advantage. I think this should be at the top of the priority list for PCNC. Action needs to be taken to enforce the law, rather than us continuing to listen to the city say they can’t do anything. That’s not true.

-Lisa Schulte: I agree with Alex and Charlie. I have a business (Nights of Neon) and I work in the film industry. I’ve been on that street for over 20 years, but it’s gotten really bad in last few years. It used to feel safe after 6:00pm, but now people look at it and don’t want to be there. People feel uncomfortable. There are consequences if I don’t pay my property taxes. There are no consequences for these people who are living there, dealing their drugs. One of my kids got held up at gunpoint. It’s like a Mad Max world. And it takes the cops a half hour to come out. There are no repercussions for anything. The film industry trucks that park on my street say how different it is from a few years ago. I haven’t been politically involved in solving this, but I’m going to be.

-Keelers: I agree with everything said. It’s a huge problem. We are strictly a business street – it’s not a very long street and it’s a cul-de-sac. So after 6:00, that street is theirs. I watch what’s going on through my cameras, and it’s crazy. If you go down that street, you’ve got one intention – drugs, prostitution, or living down there. The Fire Department and Police Department use a gate at end of the cul-de-sac as a shortcut to get to other side of the Valley. So they tear down that street at all hours. Someone is going to step out and get killed. I think it’s different situation, being a very short cul-de-sac, with all business and emergency services.

-Moses Joharian: I spoke on the phone with John earlier this week. I’m a homeowner, living the next street over on Clearfield Avenue. My cousin had a business on Saticoy and they had to sell it and move out this year. There was some cleanup, but the trash comes right back and it keeps increasing overnight. I see more tents have appeared there in the morning than I saw the night before. Now I can’t even go there in the afternoon. I used to walk with my kids and ride bicycles there. This is my first time joining this meeting. I’m not saying we can move people out forcefully. But whatever legal ways we have to move this thing faster, I’m all with you.

-Charlie: I just want you and everyone else on council to know that I’m here and am invested in trying to find a solution on this. If anyone has ideas, I think we should all work together on this.

-John: I think everyone is here tonight because this will be addressed by the City on Tuesday and people are really ready to make something happen. You can really take action through our committees, where e-mails and phone calls have gotten nowhere. Stick around, listen to what they have to say and check the agenda for contact information to get in touch. (Tony offered himself as a contact at slowtony@gmail.com.) Even logging on to the meeting tonight and showing up is helping your cause. If we have only 11-15 people on the call, city thinks no one cares. If we double or triple our numbers, the City sees that people care.

**8. Discussion and possible action on approving the Consent Calendar:**

Pamela moved to open the item for discussion. Chris seconded.

Public Comment:

-Joe: Suggestion to review MERs at beginning of each meeting, so we know what our funding is like, and what sort of funds we have, to be able to make decisions.

-Bart Trevino: Publicly saying thank you to PCNC for your support on the Let’s Make a Difference campaign. We’re not asking you to pay postage, we just need your support with the mailing.

VOTE on item 8.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

1. **Discussion and possible action for approval of any financial statements, Monthly Expenditure Reports (MER’s), or other ongoing monthly financial documents prepared by the Treasurer of Finance Chair which have not yet been approved by the Board.** 
   1. Monthly MERs

John moved to approve the MERs for August and October. Tony seconded.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

* 1. Potential Budget Package Revision

No report.

1. **Discussion and possible action to approve the Board meeting’s minutes for the last Board meeting and any other prior meetings not yet approved.**

**a.** To include any past minutes

Item postponed to the next meeting. Minutes will be circulated for approval in December.

**10. Discussion and possible action to remove Board Members in violation of**

**attendance policies:**

**a.** None for October

No board members meet that qualification.

**11. Discussion and possible action to appoint any interested qualified stakeholders to   
any appropriate vacant board seats including Youth Representatives.**

* Candidates must present documents to the Executive Committee that prove their identity and a "stake" in the Neighborhood Council, as required by each seat.
* **Examples**: Driver’s License, Consular Card or Student ID will prove identity. A Driver’s License with a current address will also prove that a person lives within the council boundaries.
* District seats are specific to either "homeowner" or "renter". For this reason, homeowners must present a recent mortgage statement or a tax bill, and renters must present a recent rent receipt or a lease. Business seats require a business card with a local address, a Business Tax Registration Certificate, or some other indication that the person works (including volunteer work) or operates a business within the council boundaries.
* Community Interest stakeholders (for an Unlimited At-Large seat) must provide a document that proves a substantial and ongoing interest within the boundaries, which is often evidenced by membership in a local organization. However, Community Interest stakeholders can be appointed to either of the vacant Alternate positions.) Signed letters from responsible parties can also be provided. The Secretary will determine the adequacy of the candidate's documentation.
* **No actual documents will be kept and interested stakeholders are only required to show the document for verification.**
* The council may appoint one or more Youth Representative(s) for a one-year term. A Youth Representative is not part of the voting Board. This is a position that allows youth to express opinions on council issues.

Available positions include four Alternate positions and three open board seats: Homeowner Center-West, Center-East Renter and a Business seat.

Perla nominated Maria Nieto for a seat.

Maria accepted the nomination and expressed interest in the Alternate 2 position.

VOTE on the nomination:

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY, with 15 for 1 abstention.

Maria Nieto will be appointed to the Alternate 2 seat, pending verification as a stakeholder of the community.

Michael nominated Michelle for a seat.

Michelle declined.

Michelle nominated Scott Boundy to move from his current seat, as At Large Director, to her old seat, as Resident-Renter Center-East Director.

Scott accepted the nomination.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Maria and Scott need to submit their information to [rosters@empowerla.org](mailto:rosters@empowerla.org)

and [jose.galdamez@lacity.org](mailto:jose.galdamez@lacity.org).

**12. Discussion, nomination, and selection of Committees to include adding new**

**Committee Chairs or new members to each committee. Also includes 2-minute report form each committee. The current committees are listed below. (20 min)**

Commerce: (Adam and Joe) The committee will meet on the last Tuesday of each month, starting in November. Discussion will include solidifying the committee’s purpose and discussing goals and ideas for next year. Input and participation is invited. John will provide a Zoom ID for the group.

Finance: (John) No update, but considering revising the PCNC budget package with a delineation of additional expenses.

Land Use: (Tony) Tony is now Chair of the committee. The committee will meet at 7:00pm on November 29 – the last Monday of the month, instead of the third Monday of the month. The meeting will include discussion on the encampment and the preservation of an historic studio district that’s being overrun. Decisions must be made on Bylaws amendments by February, posted for 30 days, then voted on again, to be ready by the April 1 deadline.

Outreach: (Perla and Chris) The committee met last night and agreed to distribute mailers quarterly, per recommendation, for the Let’s Make a Difference campaign. Discussion will continue at the December meeting, along with plans for moving forward with the campaign and promotion of health and safety. The committee meets at 6:30pm on the third Wednesday of each month. Translation is available upon request.

City Life & Beautification: (John and Martha) This committee could be used to unite around solving the homeless problem, while also addressing other issues getting out of control. November’s committee meeting will likely be postponed to December. Last meeting included discussion and feedback on the mural proposed for Panorama City by Councilmember Cardenas.

Public Safety: (Martha and John) A meeting was held last night, discussing PCNC’s participation in Let’s Make a Difference campaign. This advocates for pharmacies to encourage people to turn in prescription drugs to avoid medications falling into the hands of youth and to avoid contaminating the water supply. Elected officials attended and are invited to every committee meeting to discuss relevant issues.

Education: (Pamela) Micheal Menjivar was present, but the meeting couldn’t be held, due to lack of quorum. The school board has approved the plan for additional Arts Funding and is seeking student and parent participants for their advisory cabinets. Meetings will be conducted in Spanish and November 30 is the final date to apply. Flyers should be available tomorrow on the PCNC website.

A $10 million pot of funding is available to schools utilizing specific resources, with an extra $2 million for Arts resources. This has been distributed across various elementary schools. More funding is available through COVID relief dollars and the school board has approved the most recent COVID relief plan.

Youth: (John and Jonathan) John recommended pursuing a collaboration with Marc Coronel’s non-profit for at-risk male youth.

Alcanze Arte y Cultura: (Severiana) Severiana is considering ways to encourage and make use of the talent presented among the community’s youth and to turn participation into memory-building experiences.

Members Joining Committees:

Lisa Schulte nominated herself to join the City Life & Beautification Committee. John seconded.

Pamela asked that the board confirm Serveriana as a member of the Education Committee.

MOTION PASSED to approve both members to respective committees.

**13. Adjournment:** John adjourned the meeting at 8:18pm.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:

ELSPETH WEINGARTEN

December 16, 2021

Minutes of Panorama City Neighborhood Council (Meeting November 18)