

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

California



SYLMAR NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

PRESIDENT: Kurt Cabrera-Miller

VICE PRESIDENTS:

Administration: (open position)

Communications: Maria Silva

TREASURER: George Ortega

SECRETARY: Marti Marshall

P.O. Box 921023
Sylmar, CA 91392-1023
Telephone: (818) 833-8737

E-mail: Board@SylmarNC.org
Website: www.SylmarNC.org

SYLMAR NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
GENERAL BOARD MEETING – MINUTES

Thursday, October 26, 2017

Sylmar Charter High School

13050 Borden Avenue, Sylmar, CA 91342

Minutes are a summary of business conducted at a meeting. Only the Motions and Votes are precise. These Minutes are in meeting order, not in item number order.

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

President Kurt Cabrera-Miller called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m. John Holmes led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call –

The Sylmar Neighborhood Council's quorum is 11.

17 of the 20 Board Members were present during roll call: Kathy Bloom, Cheri Blose, Hector Cabrera, Kurt Cabrera-Miller, Paul Dumont, Lucille Floresta, Kathy Grubert, Ann Job, Marti Marshall, Don Neal, George Ortega, John Pacheco, Peter Postlmayr, Diana Rodriguez, Christian Rubalcava, Diane Valencia, and Donald Zelaya

1 of the Board Members arrived after roll call: Sheldon Cabrera-Miller arrived at 6:58pm.

3 Board Members were absent: Greg Hoerner, Derek Martin, and Maria Silva

2 Board Members left Early: Kathy Bloom left before voting for Item 21.

3. Housekeeping: Speaker Cards, Recording, and Timekeeper. Welcome from Facility Host – Kurt Cabrera-Miller

explained meeting protocol and welcomed us to our host facility, Sylmar Charter High School

4. Public Official and Community Representative Announcements & Presentations

1) **Senator Bob Herzberg**, California Senator representing the East Valley came to share about a few things going on:

- i The Senator spoke about the gas tax which passed this year to raise funds to fix roads. He wants the San Fernando Valley to be first in line with a list of what repairs need to happen and he would like to know of areas/roads which needs to be fixed.

1 Feedback from the Board and Stakeholders:

- a Peter Postlmayr gave the list of connecting Olive View to Eldridge, carpool on 210, sound walls in Sylmar, stopping the bullet train, concern over expansion of train track through Sylmar. Evelyn, who works with the Senator and was taking notes, was to follow up to get details.
- b Diane Valencia asked if the road repair includes fixing intersection and lights and was told yes.
- c Paul Dumont expressed his thanks for traffic ticket amnesty bill and the Senator commented that he is working to get last 2000 licenses back. Mr. Dumont urged the Senator to please don't give up on bail reform. He also commented on the street sweepers lacking in number and coordination in the Sylmar area.

- d John Pacheco spoke about the LADWP repairs on Foothill Blvd which will restrict lanes 8 to 10 months. He asked the Senator to please apply pressure to get it done quicker as other neighborhoods wouldn't tolerate their main fairway being drastically impacted for so long.
 - e Cheri Blose spoke about the plans which have trails leading up to the mountains, but are unfortunately in pieces because of developers. She asked if this is applicable to the bill. The Senator was unsure but will look into it.
 - f Ann Job spoke about the need for the fire station and more police.
 - g Marti Marshall asked how much the cost of gas will increase starting on November 1st. Twelve cents a gallon was the answer.
 - h Don Neal spoke in regards to high speed rail. If we can't stop it, can we work with the company which is doing Sylmar Blvd. to mitigate damages? He also spoke to the LADWP work being done on Foothill Blvd and the need for more than just patching.
 - i Kathy Bloom asked for flashing stop signs, at least in the areas in front of parks to help keep people from running the intersection.
 - j Elsa Mendoza spoke about the need for cleanup of the dead trees in parkways which is causing problem with plumbing, specifically on Cranston Ave.
- 2) **Steve List**, District 7 representative for CFAC, spoke about the Willits Act and told those in attendance that if anyone has any issues with public trees in Sylmar to please contact him.
 - 3) **Cristina Coria**, representative for Assembly member Raul Bocanegra, shared that their offices have moved to 9300 Laurel Canyon Blvd, First Floor, in Arleta 91331, 818-504-3911. She left flyers on table for a Women's Self Defense program on November 5th from 11am to 1pm. It is being held in coordination with the police department and a martial arts studio.

5. Public Comment on Non-Agendized Items within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction

- 1) **Steve List**, representative of Something Beautiful and spoke about the workshops on Urban Gardening. He also introduced Jonathan Pena who represents Sylmar High School on the Mayor's Youth Council.
- 2) **Bonnie Bernard**, spoke about Sylmar Neighborhood Council's policy of transparency specifically regarding meeting minutes and the lack of posting of them on the website. Meeting minutes are being approved by the committees but are not appearing on the website.
- 3) **Patricia Rau**, a Stakeholder, also spoke about the lack of meeting minutes on the website.
- 4) **Nina Royal**, invited everyone to the open house for the North Valley Reporter on November 3rd.
- 5) **Norma Virgen** came to speak her appreciation to Kurt Cabrera-Miller for his help to her family and her neighbors.
- 6) **John Holmes** spoke on the LA Traffic Commission's comment about increasing the speed of vehicular movement through the city and their comment that all Neighborhood Council's had been notified. He asked if the Sylmar Neighborhood Council had been notified about this.
- 7) **Toni King** spoke about people spitting gum out on the sidewalks and wondered if there is anything the Sylmar Neighborhood Council can do about it, like posting signs.

6. City Liaison Reports:

Animal Services Liaisons – Kelli Land shared that Lucy Pet Foundation events can be found on their website and warned that with Halloween coming up raisins and chocolate are bad for dogs and costumes can be scary for pets.

Budget Representatives – Christian Rubalcava will be contacting a budget advocate to attend the next Sylmar Neighborhood Council meeting and provide an update.

City Attorney Liaisons – Diane Valencia had nothing to report

DWP Liaison – George Ortega reported that he did field survey the work being done south of Pascal and the area between Paxton and Hubbard and shared that he saw a significant difference between Paxton and Arroyo. There is no two lane western pocket and there is no parking lane on the western side as the street narrows at certain points. It will be interesting to see how they barricade and do their work considering these constrictions.

Homelessness Liaison – Ann Job shared that at the last meeting about the Sylmar Armory, it was shared that they won't meet the December opening, it looks more like February. The good side of having to wait is that the entire space will all be available for the homeless and will not need to be shared with National Guard.

Planning Liaisons – Ann Job and Cheri Blose had nothing to report.

Public Safety Liaison – Diane Valencia shared that there will be a meeting on November 7th with the LA Police Commission. This meeting is open to public. She also spoke about heat wave, intense winds, and fires; at least one fire was started by flare gun to brush. She asked everyone to be diligent in their reporting.

Public Works – Christian Rubalcava shared that the application for the Clean Sweep Valley challenge has been submitted.

Team’s idea is to have tables set up with each community/government group present to represent on how they can support clean Sylmar.

Transportation Liaison – Don Neal spoke about the High Speed Rail and its progressed work.

7. **Presentation:** Pat Kramer / Sunland Tujunga Neighborhood Council (STNC). Location of topic - Foothill Blvd. Traffic lanes at Foothill Blvd at Sunland Park to Foothill Blvd. and Wentworth Street. The STNC is requesting that the Sylmar NC support their Council’s approved motion. The Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council requests that the Department of Transportation and all agencies related to traffic control in the City of Los Angeles, be notified to immediately remove the bollards and barriers starting at Foothill Boulevard by Sunland Park and going west all the way to Wentworth Street, with complete restoration of two lanes in either direction.”

Comments & Questions from the Board and Stakeholders:

- Peter Postlmayr spoke of his interaction with stakeholders who said traffic was not as much of a problem now as it was at first. He also shared that he was not sure how much firsthand knowledge this community has about this issue.
- Marti Marshall shared that she does drive it often and commented that it is a pain. Ann Job seconded Ms. Marshall’s statement.
- Diane Valencia also travels this route frequently and was concerned about the emergency issue when it was first put in.
- Don Neal shared about what’s happening near North Hollywood and expressed that using the safety angle in the best approach to get results from the Department of Transportation. Ann Job echoed his opinion.
- David DePinto, a Shadow Hills resident, spoke that this road issue was a concern before the fire. The Board of Directors at Shadow Hills does support this motion. He also expressed the importance for citizens to stand up to be consulted and involved in the process.
- Nina Royal, a community member, shared that not only does the road need to be reverted, the Department of Transportation needs to consult the Neighborhood Councils. She asked that this be part of the letter.
- Joanne, a community member, spoke about traveling that path, her frustrating experiences, and her support of the motion.

Discussion and possible action, to requests that the Department of Transportation and all agencies related to traffic control in the City of Los Angeles, be notified to immediately remove the bollards and barriers starting at Foothill Boulevard by Sunland Park and going west all the way to Wentworth Street, with complete restoration of two lanes in either direction.” and to provide the STNC a letter of support.

Moved by Marti Marshall; seconded by Christian Rubalcava

Discussion: Diane Valencia spoke regarding the verbiage of the letter. The motion is to provide a letter of support, Sylmar Neighborhood Council will rework letter.

Motion Passed by vote of the 17 eligible members present. Yes (12): Kathy Bloom, Cheri Blose, Hector Cabrera, Kurt Cabrera-Miller, Lucille Floresta, Kathy Grubert, Ann Job, Marti Marshall, John Pacheco, Christian Rubalcava, Diane Valencia, and Donald Zelaya; No (3) Paul Dumont, George Ortega and Peter Postlmayr; Abstain (2) Don Neal and Diana Rodriguez

8. Change of Neighborhood Council election dates - Proposal of a “Selection” as an alternative to an election. **Discussion and possible action**, The 2018 Neighborhood Council elections have been changed to the spring of 2019. Sylmar Neighborhood Council has the option of holding a “Selection” (non-secret) vote instead of an election in the spring of 2018. If the Board votes to have a “Selection”, it must take place with-in two (2) weeks of March 2nd. It will be done in an open Town Hall. Council would have to appoint a Neutral Third Party (NTP) person that may not be a Board or Committee member. The Council would also appoint a “Selection Chair” and a “Selection Outreach Chair”. If the Council chooses to vote for a “Selection” following that vote they must decide on the following (5) items. If the council does not opt for a “Selection” the next election for SNC Board Members will be in 2019. (This is for all Neighborhood Council’s not just Sylmar.)

Motion:

A) The Sylmar Neighborhood Council agrees to hold a “Selection”.

-OR-

B) The Sylmar Neighborhood Council agrees to the rescheduled election and follow the Election Guides set by the LA City Clerk for a 2019 Election.

Moved by Peter Postlmayr for Motion B; seconded by Kathy Bloom

Discussion: Christian Rubalcava disagreed because board would be voting themselves an extended term. Diane Valencia reminded this board that the council has voted on these election issues twice before. Marti Marshall shared that elections should

be secret and should force the city to allow a proper election in 2018. John Pacheco agreed with Marti Marshall and Peter Postlmayr in regards to how a selection is held and spoke in favor of proper elections.

Steven Box, Director of Outreach and Communication, Senior Project Coordinator at DONE, was in attendance to provide more information. In an effort to increase voter participation, the city council changed from an odd year cycle to an even year cycle. This pushed the Neighborhood Councils from even years to odd years. There is no process or funds for an election in 2018. The selection could be in many forms but it wouldn't be a secret ballot. Although there are seven Neighborhood Councils which hold selections every year, none of the other 90 Neighborhood Councils have chosen to opt for a Selection thus far.

Peter Postlmayr spoke about how hard it is to do outreach and get people involved for an election.

John Pacheco also spoke about voter turnout and about have more than one polling place in Sylmar and advance online voting. He asked Mr. Box how a Selection would work and Mr. Box replied for the most part it is up to the Neighborhood council, but there are no secret ballots in a selection.

Ann Job shared that the committee in charge also wrestled with these issues and the problem of giving board members an extra year. She said she's not a favor of the extra year

Paul Dumont moved to table the motion, Don Neal seconded this new motion.

Discussion: Christian Rubalcava disagrees the motion of tabling the motion and there was some discussion as to what exactly this new motion meant.

Motion Failed by vote of the **18** eligible members present. Yes (4): Cheri Blose, Paul Dumont, Don Neal, and George Ortega; (No) Kathy Bloom, Hector Cabrera, Sheldon Cabrera-Miller, Lucille Floresta, Kathy Grubert, Ann Job, Marti Marshall, John Pacheco, Peter Postlmayr, Diana Rodriguez, Christian Rubalcava, Diane Valencia, and Donald Zelaya; Abstain (1) Kurt Cabrera-Miller

Bonnie Bernard encouraged the Sylmar Neighborhood Council to have the selection especially since there are 6 people on the board who have not been voted by the community and there will likely be more by 2019.

Mary Gallardo, a stakeholder gave her support of the selection.

Kryssia Marceau, also a stakeholder gave her support of the selection.

Tim Marceau, a stakeholder shared that the Sylmar Neighborhood Council has a stigma attached to it and that not having a selection will only alienate the community they represent.

Les Aisenman, a stakeholder, spoke than they have to choose between 2 bad options, however anything short of an election will stigmatize that selection by its very nature. He suggested very strongly that they select the only alternative they have to have a real election. He also spoke strongly for the need of an additional polling place.

Joanne, a stakeholder, supports the selection and echoed Tim's concerns and promised help in getting people out to vote. Kurt Cabrera-Miller noted in response to Ms. Bernard's comments about the council member who were not elected by the community, that there have not been any applicants to the board who have not been appointed and everyone is welcome to apply when there are open seats.

Marti Marshall shared that one option is to stand up against DONE and have an election in 2018.

John Pacheco called for the vote on Option B

Motion Passed by vote of the **18** eligible members present. Yes (13): Kathy Bloom, Hector Cabrera, Kurt Cabrera-Miller, Sheldon Cabrera-Miller, Paul Dumont, Lucille Floresta, Kathy Grubert, Ann Job, Marti Marshall, Don Neal, George Ortega, John Pacheco, and Peter Postlmayr; No (4) Cheri Blose, Diana Rodriguez Christian Rubalcava, and Diane Valencia; Abstain (1) Donald Zelaya

9. **Discussion and possible action**, to dissolve any SNC Committees that are not currently active. Committees that have not met in the last quarter or at all, including Government Affairs and Harvest Festival. If these committees are dissolved there is nothing to stop them from reforming.

Moved to dissolve Harvest Festival by Christian Rubalcava, seconded by Kathy Bloom

Discussion: The Committee can be closed as there is no availability in the parks.

Motion Passed by vote of the **18** eligible members present. Yes (18): Kathy Bloom, Cheri Blose, Hector Cabrera, Kurt Cabrera-Miller, Sheldon Cabrera-Miller, Paul Dumont, Lucille Floresta, Kathy Grubert, Ann Job, Marti Marshall, Don Neal, George Ortega. John Pacheco, Peter Postlmayr, Diana Rodriguez, Christian Rubalcava, Diane Valencia, and Donald Zelaya; No (0) None; Abstain (0) None

Motion to dissolve Government Affairs, by Christian Rubalcava, seconded by Diane Valencia

Discussion: Ann Job, the committee chair for Government Affairs said it would be okay to dissolve this group and agreed with Christian Rubalcava's statement that the scope or purpose of the committee was too broad and never clearly defined. Diane Valencia shared that she is using public safety committee to focus on governmental affairs/relationships within the scope of public safety and encouraged all of the committees to develop those government relationships on their specific topics. John Pacheco agreed with Ms. Valencia and recommended the committees use Ann Job as resource. Paul Dumont said that he would be interested in being on committee if there was a more specific description or scope.

Motion Passed by vote of the **18** eligible members present. Yes (17): Kathy Bloom, Cheri Blose, Hector Cabrera, Kurt Cabrera-Miller, Paul Dumont, Lucille Floresta, Kathy Grubert, Ann Job, Marti Marshall, Don Neal, George Ortega. John Pacheco, Peter Postlmayr, Diana Rodriguez, Christian Rubalcava, Diane Valencia, and Donald Zelaya; No (1) Sheldon Cabrera-Miller; Abstain (0) None

- 10. Discussion and possible action,** President to Nominate SNC Board Member Christian Rubalcava for the SNC Vice President of Administration position. The duties of the Vice President of Administration are: To perform the duties of the President in the absence of the President - To be responsible for the operational and logistical needs of the Board and Council - To oversee the operation of the Council Office and staff. - To address and respond to requests for records. Kurt Cabrera-Miller called for any other nominations.

Moved by Paul Dumont, seconded by Diane Valencia

Discussion: Diane Valencia expressed her support for Christian Rubalcava and offered any help he might need as a former VP of Admin.

Motion Passed by vote of the **18** eligible members present. Yes (18): Kathy Bloom, Cheri Blose, Hector Cabrera, Kurt Cabrera-Miller, Sheldon Cabrera-Miller, Paul Dumont, Lucille Floresta, Kathy Grubert, Ann Job, Marti Marshall, Don Neal, George Ortega. John Pacheco, Peter Postlmayr, Diana Rodriguez, Christian Rubalcava, Diane Valencia, and Donald Zelaya; No (0) None; Abstain (0) None

- 11. Recess/Meet & Greet** – 8:31pm – 8:46pm

12. Committee Reports:

Executive Committee – Kurt Cabrera-Miller shared an update on the lease. It is in negotiation with the landlord and contracts with the city.

Budget Committee – George Ortega passed in the interest of brevity.

Bylaws Committee – Diane Valencia had no report

Outreach Committee – Carlos Lara shared about the upcoming Community Cleanup and 311 Blitz event on November 4th from 8am to 11am. He also said he was pleased to see SNC board members at ribbon cutting ceremony at Mission College.

Planning & Land Use Committee – Peter Postlmayr asked for a contact at mission college to discuss parking issues. At the last meeting they also discussed the Foothill trunk line project and the two other issues which are later on in the agenda.

Homeless Services Committee – Peggy Courtney shared that the next meeting is the first Thursday of November at Church of the Foothills at 6:30pm. On November 8th there will be a meeting at Sylmar High School at 6:30pm to discuss the armory.

Emergency Preparedness Committee – John Pacheco spoke about future CERT training in February. He also shared the success of the booth at the Valley Preparedness Fair: over 130 people signed up for more info, and Sylmar was in top 3 zip codes of people who attended. He also shared that due to a lack of response the committee is considering move the Business Emergency Preparedness event to January. It was originally scheduled for November 8th.

Equestrian Committee – Cheri Blose shared that although the committee didn't meet this month, they did have a meeting at the Councilmember's office. Although she was not there, one of her representatives was in attendance. It appears she is forming an equestrian committee for her area. Ms. Blose was invited to attend and be a representative in that group. No additional information is available at this time and none of the committee's other questions to the Councilmember have been answered.

Public Safety Committee – Diane Valencia shared that their first meeting was on October 12th. The group is a committee of six people: Kurt Cabrera-Miller is on committee as 2nd director and there are 4 stakeholders. Tom Weisbarth was appointed as Vice Chair, as he has long standing relationship with LAPD. At the next meeting will further prioritizing the list of issues which they came up with during

first meeting. Some of these include: fireworks, sidewalk vending, patient dumping, and LAPD crime stats.

- 13. Treasurer's Report** – George Ortega passed in the interest of brevity.
- 14. Discussion and possible action** regarding a Neighborhood Purpose Grant for a requested amount \$5,546.00 for the San Fernando Valley Veterans Day Parade, which travels down Laurel Canyon Blvd from San Fernando Mission Blvd. to South Paxton to Ritchie Valens Recreation Center on Saturday, November 11, 2017. Sylmar Neighborhood Council logo to be printed on T-shirts. The budget committee recommends an amount not to exceed \$1,500 for event expenses such as restroom, recreation & park fees, barricades and signs.

Moved by Cheri Blose for 1500; seconded by George Ortega

Discussion: John Pacheco asked if we ever participate in the parade. Diane Valencia shared that Derek Martin has been in the parade as a veteran. Fred Flores, who is applying for the grant, shared they would love a Sylmar Neighborhood Council Veteran or Sylmar Entry in the parade. Regardless of the amount, the Sylmar Neighborhood Council is welcome to set up table at the park and seats at the viewing platform. He also shared that the Councilmember's office is providing some support.

David Riniker, community member and part of the SFVVDP, spoke that often some of the fees are waived, but held in limbo until after the event. Cindy Cleghorn, STNC, encouraged the board to take the opportunity to get your name out there at the parade to encourage community involvement and voter turnout, regardless of whatever amount is decided on.

Motion Passed by vote of the **18** eligible members present. Yes (18): Kathy Bloom, Cheri Blose, Hector Cabrera, Kurt Cabrera-Miller, Sheldon Cabrera-Miller, Paul Dumont, Lucille Floresta, Kathy Grubert, Ann Job, Marti Marshall, Don Neal, George Ortega, John Pacheco, Peter Postlmayr, Diana Rodriguez, Christian Rubalcava, Diane Valencia, and Donald Zelaya; No (0) None; Abstain (0) None

- 15. Review & Adoption of MER** - Discussion and possible action, on the approval of the September 2017 Monthly Expenditure Report (MER)

Moved by Peter; seconded by Diane Valencia

Discussion: none

Motion Passed by vote of the **18** eligible members present. Yes (17): Kathy Bloom, Cheri Blose, Hector Cabrera, Kurt Cabrera-Miller, Sheldon Cabrera-Miller, Paul Dumont, Lucille Floresta, Kathy Grubert, Ann Job, Marti Marshall, Don Neal, George Ortega, Peter Postlmayr, Diana Rodriguez, Christian Rubalcava, Diane Valencia, and Donald Zelaya; No (0) None; Abstain (0) Absent: John Pacheco from this vote.

- 16. Discussion and possible action** to approve an expenditure not to exceed \$650. For food and refreshments, tables and chairs for the Annual SNC Holiday Party/Community Mixer on Thursday, December 14, 2017. This event brings neighbors, stakeholders, Board Members Local Officials together in a no meeting environment to further build, develop and cherish community relationships (2016 approved funding of \$600) Funds to come from Office/Outreach category

Moved by Kathy Bloom; seconded by Lucille Floresta

Discussion: Diane Valencia asked if the date was set in stone, and it was confirmed that the date is set and a permit has been acquired.

Motion Passed by vote of the **18** eligible members present. Yes (17): Kathy Bloom, Cheri Blose, Hector Cabrera, Kurt Cabrera-Miller, Sheldon Cabrera-Miller, Paul Dumont, Lucille Floresta, Kathy Grubert, Ann Job, Marti Marshall, Don Neal, George Ortega, Peter Postlmayr, Diana Rodriguez, Christian Rubalcava, Diane Valencia, and Donald Zelaya; No (0) None; Abstain (0) Absent: John Pacheco from this vote.

- 17. Secretary's Report** – Marti Marshall shared that training is current for all board members. She also noted that she had one more California constitution left for anyone who wanted a copy. Lastly she encouraged all committees send their funding items to George and the Budget Committee prior to bringing them to the Board.

- 18. Approval of previous Board Meeting minutes - Discussion and possible action** to approve the meeting minutes for General SNC Board Meeting September 28, 2017.

Moved by Christian Rubalcava; seconded by Kathy Grubert

Discussion: None

Motion Passed by vote of the **18** eligible members present. Yes (17): Kathy Bloom, Cheri Blose, Hector Cabrera, Kurt Cabrera-Miller, Sheldon Cabrera-Miller, Paul Dumont, Lucille Floresta, Kathy Grubert, Ann Job, Marti Marshall, Don Neal, George Ortega, John Pacheco, Peter Postlmayr, Diana Rodriguez, Christian Rubalcava, Diane Valencia, and Donald Zelaya; No (0) None; Abstain (1) Diane Valencia

- 19. Discussion and possible action**, Draft Permanent Supportive Housing Ordinance CPC-2017-3136-CA and ENV-2017-3137-EAF. PLUC voted to support the draft Ordinance with 5 modifications as follows: 1. Object to No Parking requirement for target population and recommended minimum 1/2 space per unit or guest room, same as non-target population; 2. Objected to decrease in the Yard/Setback of up to 20%; 3. Object to a 20% increase in Lot Coverage; 4. Object to decreasing open space 20%; and, 5. Object to 35% relief from any other development standard not described.
Please note you may submit your own comments to: Cally Hardy at cally.hardy@lacity.org (213) 978-1643 by 5pm October 30th.

Moved by Peter Postlmayr; seconded by Kurt Cabrera-Miller

Discussion: Kathy Grubert clarified that the modifications are more conservative in Sylmar's favor. Peter Postlmayr confirmed this.

Motion Passed by vote of the **18** eligible members present. Yes (18): Kathy Bloom, Cheri Blose, Hector Cabrera, Kurt Cabrera-Miller, Sheldon Cabrera-Miller, Paul Dumont, Lucille Floresta, Kathy Grubert, Ann Job, Marti Marshall, Don Neal, George Ortega, John Pacheco, Peter Postlmayr, Diana Rodriguez, Christian Rubalcava, Diane Valencia, and Donald Zelaya; No (0) None; Abstain (0) None

- 20. Discussion and possible action**, 13744 N Marchant Ave – ZA-2017-3716-CE. Request Authorization for Front Yard Property Line Wall of 7'8" to 5'6" Applicant Felix Martinez (818) 365-8108. The PLUC voted to oppose this request. Applicant has already built the wall without permits.

Moved by Peter Postlmayr; seconded by Diane Valencia

Discussion: Paul Dumont asked if the homeowner was invited to the SNC board meeting. He was called but there was no answer. John Holmes asked for clarification of which walls in the pictures were being discussed. Peter Postlmayr clarified that a yes vote is for the draft letter which opposes the requested authorization.

Motion Passed by vote of the **18** eligible members present. Yes (18): Kathy Bloom, Cheri Blose, Hector Cabrera, Kurt Cabrera-Miller, Sheldon Cabrera-Miller, Paul Dumont, Lucille Floresta, Kathy Grubert, Ann Job, Marti Marshall, Don Neal, George Ortega, John Pacheco, Peter Postlmayr, Diana Rodriguez, Christian Rubalcava, Diane Valencia, and Donald Zelaya; No (0) None; Abstain (0) None

- 21. As per SNC Bylaws Board Member Absenteeism - Discussion & possible Board action: To remove SNC Director Diane Valencia** per Article V, Section 7 (Absences) of the Sylmar Neighborhood Council Bylaws, approved June 26, 2017. Article V, Section 7 (Absences) "Any Director who misses three (3) regularly scheduled consecutive Council Board Meetings during any six (6) month period or four (4) regularly scheduled meetings within any twelve (12) month period will be subject to removal by a majority vote of the Board. Absences for all Directors shall be recorded in the Council's meeting minutes or other manner of Council record keeping. Upon missing the stated number of Board meetings, the President shall notify the Director of their absences and place the removal of the Director on the agenda of the next General or Special Board meeting.

BOARD MEMBERS NOTE - A vote NO translates to you wanting the member to remain on the SNC. A vote YES translates to you supporting Board Member's dismissal from the Council.

Moved by Ann Job, seconded by John Pacheco

Discussion: Kurt asked that the By-Laws Committee look at this issue to reword. Diane Valencia supportive of this as part of the By-Laws. She also spoke of her challenges this past 3 months both professionally and personally. Kathy Grubert said it would be a shame to lose Diane as a board member and hopes everyone would vote to keep her on. Marti shared that although Diane was unavailable at the meetings she did work with her in setting up the secretary position and catching up on the SNC paperwork. Ann Job also spoke of Ms. Valencia value over many years.

Motion Failed by vote of the 17 eligible members present. Yes (1): George Ortega; No (16) Cheri Blose, Hector Cabrera, Kurt Cabrera-Miller, Sheldon Cabrera-Miller, Paul Dumont, Lucille Floresta, Kathy Grubert, Ann Job, Marti Marshall, Don Neal, John Pacheco, Peter Postlmayr, Diana Rodriguez, Christian Rubalcava, Diane Valencia, and Donald Zelaya

22. **Discussion and possible action**, Stakeholder Mr. Diaz has directly made a request to the management of the Sylmar branch Post Office if they could do some property up-keep and clean up. After no action Mr. Diaz took his issue to Kurt Cabrera-Miller SNC President. Kurt Cabrera-Miller had conversations with local Post Master and with our US Congressman. Kurt Cabrera-Miller suggested to Mr. Diaz to submit a request for Board involvement and board support of a letter from the SNC to the Post Office and those that it relates to.

Moved by John Pacheco; seconded by Lucille Floresta

Discussion: Kurt Cabrera-Miller shared that he met with Congressman Tony Cardenas on another issue, and he plans to take this Postmaster around to the other Post Offices and have her explain exactly why she thinks the Sylmar Branch is “just fine”. Marti Marshall would like to see this item go back to outreach. Kathy Grubert agreed about going back to a committee when it’s about a beautification project but a letter of support should be voted on now. George Ortega was at the Outreach meeting when Mr. Diaz made his report. It should be advised that Mr. Diaz not represent himself as the Sylmar Neighborhood Council. Paul Dumont supports the letter as the building needs to be maintained. Diane Valencia pointed out that there are verbiage errors in the letters. Kathy Grubert volunteered to do a grammar check on the letter.

Committee members do not represent the Sylmar Neighborhood Council. They also don’t represent their committee unless the committee has voted on the issue.

Motion Passed by vote of the 17 eligible members present. Yes (17): Cheri Blose, Hector Cabrera, Kurt Cabrera-Miller, Sheldon Cabrera-Miller, Paul Dumont, Lucille Floresta, Kathy Grubert, Ann Job, Marti Marshall, Don Neal, George Ortega, John Pacheco, Peter Postlmayr, Diana Rodriguez, Christian Rubalcava, Diane Valencia, and Donald Zelaya; No (0) None; Abstain (0) None

23. **Budget Committee Examination** – As per SNC bylaws. At least once each quarter, the President and at least one (1) other individual other than the Treasurer, who is designated by the Board, shall examine the Council’s accounts and attest to their accuracy before submitting the documentation to the Department for further review. Discussion and possible action, Board to name/designate at least 1 person to assist the President to examine the Council’s accounts.

Moved by Peter Postlmayr; seconded by Marti Marshall

Discussion: Diane Valencia double check last year regarding terms. **This item was tabled.**

24. **Discussion and possible action**, The Sunland – Tujunga Neighborhood Council request that the Sylmar Neighborhood Council support their position in Opposition to the Draft Cannabis Zoning Regulations, CPC-2017-2260-CA as it relates to cannabis Cultivation. (STNC/Cindy Cleghorn to add further discussion.) For information <http://www.stnc.org/docs/34481199-3033.pdf>

Moved by John Pacheco; seconded by Marti Marshall

Discussion: Diane Valencia asked about what form the Board’s support would be in. Mr. Cabrera-Miller replied that he would be in the notes as a matter of record and could also be a letter. Peter Postlmayr asked how long the Sylmar Neighborhood Council has to release comments. Cindy Cleghorn replied that the sooner the better. Peter Postlmayr shared that it would be good for Sylmar to take a stance. Bonnie Bernard, a stakeholder, asked if what Cindy is speaking about is in alliance with Monica Rodrigues’ position.

Rafael Bernardino, Jr., a lawyer representing business owners against this motion, spoke against the letter as it is misleading in terms of buffer. While the City of Los Angeles does not require a buffer, the State of California does. Under the law, these businesses must have a city and a state license.

Motion Failed by vote of the 17 eligible members present. Yes (5): Cheri Blose, Hector Cabrera, Lucille Floresta, Marti Marshall, and Diane Valencia; No (11) Kurt Cabrera-Miller, Sheldon Cabrera-Miller, Paul Dumont, Kathy Grubert, Ann Job, Don Neal, George Ortega, John Pacheco, Peter Postlmayr, Diana Rodriguez, and Donald Zelaya; Abstain (1) Christian Rubalcava

Planning and Land Use will put this item on their committee agenda next meeting to look in detail at the ordinance

25. **Discussion and possible action**, in regards to the formation of an Ad Hoc Committee “Youth Committee”.

Moved by Kurt Cabrera-Miller; seconded by Cheri Blose

Motion to table Moved by Kurt Cabrera-Miller; seconded by Christian Rubalcava.

Discussion: Diane Valencia asked what was the goal or purpose of the committee. Kathy Grubert shared that there should be a form which can be filled out. **This item was tabled.**

26. Board Member Comments / Announcements

Peter Postlmayr– Encouraged the Outreach Committee to hold a mixer at the newly opened Bottle Shop.

Peter Dumont – Would like an item on the agenda next month to address exactly what’s not working in terms of getting meeting minutes on website.

27. Future Agenda Items

Write to Executive Board by email at ExecutiveBoard@SylmarNC.org or by mail at:

Executive Board c/o Sylmar Neighborhood Council, P.O. Box 921023, Sylmar, CA 91392-1023

The next General Board meeting will be:

Thursday November 16, 2017 at 6:30pm

Sylmar Charter High School, 13050 Borden Ave, Sylmar, CA 91342

28. Closing Remarks, Acknowledgements, and Adjournment. Adjourned at 9:58pm.