

Meeting Minutes of the Elysian Valley-Riverside Neighborhood Council Meeting  
 Wednesday, June 14, 2017 – 6:30 p.m.  
 Dorris Place Elementary School  
 2225 Dorris Place, Los Angeles, CA 90031

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**1. Roll Call/Call to order at 6:44 p.m.** by Roman Gomez

Roman Gomez	Vice Chair	Present
Arturo Gomez	Chair	<i>absent</i>
Joseph Lovelis	Secretary	Present
Lupe Fletes	Treasurer	<i>absent</i>
Frank Mendoza	At Large Representative	Present
Gloria Mora	At Large Representative	Present
Adrienne Benitez	At Large Representative	Present
Alvaro Mora	At Large Representative	Present
Gary Rogokos	At Large Representative	Present
Luis Rosales	At Large Representative	<i>absent</i>
Jesus Garcia	At Large Representative	Present
Vincent Montalvo	At Large Representative	Present
Alejandro Palomino	At Large Representative	Present
Carrie Sutkin	At Large Representative	Present

**2. Community Announcements** (5 mins). Elena (no last name given) announced Summer Kick-Off this Friday at Elysian Valley Recreation Center, all is welcome. Carrie Sutkin made an announcement, on June 28<sup>th</sup> at Allesandro there will be a stakeholders meeting. Vincent Montalvo did not receive the executive meeting to create the agenda. The voting was not ok if there is no agenda because notification was not proper. Joe Lovelis announced, on June 30 EVRNC is co-sponsoring Movie Night at 7:00 p.m. it should be a good event for family and friends, popcorn and candy provided.

**3. Government Officials' Reports** (5 minutes per Speaker).

Hector Vega with Councilman Mitch O'Farrell office spoke about the upcoming hearing on Thursday, June 29<sup>th</sup> 10a.m. for the Commercial Cannabis location. Notice is given at the meeting with all the information: where the dispensaries will be allowed and where they will not. An email will be sent out with information directly from the city planning department. Hector also says to please remind friends and neighbors that fireworks are not allowed in the City of Los Angeles. Carrie Sutkin asked if the fire department is pro-active with stickers or anything regarding fireworks. Hector stated flyers will be provided. Hector also announced that on July 13<sup>th</sup> Animal services will have a presentation for co-existing with the wildlife which is also on the flyer. Hector Vega said there is approval for Riverside Drive to be resurfaced in July, up to Stadium Way nothing further due to construction of pipe replacement. Also the contract with the landscaping work on the median on Riverside Drive will resume. Hector also re-

stated, about filming if there are issues to please make him aware so they can remedy those issues.

Joe Lovelis asked the question about the various signs people are putting up in the neighborhood and the city ordinance against doing so. The signs are out of control, he stated, it needs to be addressed and he gave the signs that he brought to the meeting that he found posted on the streets to Hector Vega to contact the owners of the signs and let them know they are in violation of city ordinances. Gloria Mora said there were four signs on her street that were removed by herself and neighbors but were replaced the next day hire up.

Also, Gloria Mora would like to know what is going on with Dash. Hector said they are looking into this with the Department of Transportation (DOT). Neighbors found out that DOT had a meeting and attended to express their concerns. There will be another outreach meeting in July and they hope to give some insight into that. Joe Lovelis said that USA trucks which is the company that is sent out to do the evaluation before digging occurs so that nothing is broken or blown up. Frank Mendoza asked Hector Vega to elaborate on “vision zero”. Trying to reduce the number of lanes of traffic. And adding bike lanes on Riverside/Fletcher. A public member (name not given) asked if the city is being sued since cars are sitting more in traffic when streets are reduced by narrowing lanes. Hector said again that his contact information is out there if he needs to be contacted.

- 4. Approval of minutes for February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017** (discussion and action, 1 min. per Speaker). No questions, Joe Lovelis made the motion to approve these minutes, and Gloria Mora 2nds the motion. Vote: Nine (9) yay, two (2) abstains Frank and Alejandro, three (3) absent.

Roman Gomez	Yay
Arturo Gomez	<i>absent</i>
Joseph Lovelis	Yay
Lupe Fletes	<i>absent</i>
Frank Mendoza	Abstain
Gloria Mora	Yay
Adrienne Benitez	Yay
Alvaro Mora	Yay
Gary Rogokos	Yay
Luis Rosales	<i>absent</i>
Jesus Garcia	Yay
Vincent Montalvo	Yay
Alejandro Palomino	Abstain
Carrie Sutkin	Yay

- 5. Approval of minutes for March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017** (discussion and action, 1 min. per Speaker). Tom (last name not given), who is videotaping the meeting, stated he is with the coalition to preserve LA. And states that the public should be aware of the minutes before hand. Alejandro Palomino is requesting that the minutes are emailed 2 weeks in advance to

digest the information. Alvaro Mora would like to know if steps are being taken to not get these minutes all in one shot. Roman says he would like to see the minutes viewed and voted on a monthly basis. Arturo will be getting the minutes going forward after this meeting since he will be in charge. A motion to move to approve from Gloria Mora and Joe Lovelis 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Seven (7) yes, four (4) abstain, Carrie, Alejandro, Vincent and Frank. Three (3) absent

Roman Gomez	Yay
Arturo Gomez	<i>absent</i>
Joseph Lovelis	Yay
Lupe Fletes	<i>absent</i>
Frank Mendoza	Abstain
Gloria Mora	Yay
Adrienne Benitez	Yay
Alvaro Mora	Yay
Gary Rogokos	Yay
Luis Rosales	<i>absent</i>
Jesus Garcia	Yay
Vincent Montalvo	Abstain
Alejandro Palomino	Abstain
Carrie Sutkin	Abstain

**6. Approval of minutes for April 12th, 2017** (discussion and action, 1 min. per Speaker).

The was no public comment, Alejandro Palomino says at the end of item10, page not given, “with a motion from Alexandro” there is an error since that was not a motion made by him. He also does not see the comment that Dorian Mora was being aggressive towards the board members. Joe Lovelis made a motion to take out Item 10 of the minutes for April 12 to strike amendments and change to reconsideration. Eight (8) yes, One (1) Alejandro Palomino, abstained. Gloria Mora and Adrienne Benitez oppose, three (3) absent.

Roman Gomez	Yay
Arturo Gomez	<i>absent</i>
Joseph Lovelis	Yay
Lupe Fletes	<i>absent</i>
Frank Mendoza	Yay
Gloria Mora	NO
Adrienne Benitez	NO
Alvaro Mora	Yay
Gary Rogokos	Yay
Luis Rosales	<i>absent</i>
Jesus Garcia	Yay
Vincent Montalvo	Yay
Alejandro Palomino	Abstain
Carrie Sutkin	Yay

A Member of the public says if it is on record on the minutes then it should remain. Stacks of minutes were at the table before the meeting started. Vincent Montalvo said there are a lot of discrepancy's on how he voted. He asked that this be tabled and have the minutes corrected. Vincent says that is why it is important to get the minutes to him with proper time. Gary Rogokos stated he handed out the budget to Lupe Fletes, Joe Lovelis and his self which are not on the minutes. Alvaro Mora understands why city council records the meetings to see if this is something we can approve on. Gloria Mora moves for the April Minutes to be approved. Seven (7) yes, 4 abstain (Carrie, Alejandro Vincent and Frank), Three (3) absent. Roman Gomez states they are alleged mistakes and Alejandro Palomino wants to know what is going to be done?

Roman Gomez	Yay
Arturo Gomez	<i>absent</i>
Joseph Lovelis	Yay
Lupe Fletes	<i>absent</i>
Frank Mendoza	Abstain
Gloria Mora	Yay
Adrienne Benitez	Yay
Alvaro Mora	Yay
Gary Rogokos	Yay
Luis Rosales	<i>absent</i>
Jesus Garcia	Yay
Vincent Montalvo	Abstain
Alejandro Palomino	Abstain
Carrie Sutkin	Abstain

- 7. Approval of minutes for May 10th, 2017** (discussion and action, 1 min. per Speaker). Alvaro Mora motioned to table May 10<sup>th</sup> minutes to the next meeting and Adrienne 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion due to discrepancy.

- 8. Approval of Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) for April 2017** (discussion and action, 1 min. per Speaker).

A member of the public (name not given) stated that there are no copies for the expenditures and they cannot help the board for this item. Roman Gomez said it will be tabled at this time. Joe Lovelis makes a motion to table the MER for next meeting. Ten (10) Yes, One abstain, (Alejandro), three (3) absent.

Roman Gomez	Yay
Arturo Gomez	<i>absent</i>
Joseph Lovelis	Yay
Lupe Fletes	<i>absent</i>
Frank Mendoza	Yay
Gloria Mora	Yay
Adrienne Benitez	Yay
Alvaro Mora	Yay

Gary Rogokos	Yay
Luis Rosales	<i>absent</i>
Jesus Garcia	Yay
Vincent Montalvo	Yay
Alejandro Palomino	Abstain
Carrie Sutkin	Yay

- 9. Approval of MER for May 2017** (Discussion and Possible Action, 1 min. per Speaker).  
 Adrienne Benitez addressed the meeting for Lupe Fletes, and says that she can't walk and she needs prayer and that if we can bear this one time. Gloria Mora moved to table the MER for May. Adrienne 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion (all in favor, 1 abstain, (Alejandro) three (3) absent.

Roman Gomez	Yay
Arturo Gomez	<i>absent</i>
Joseph Lovelis	Yay
Lupe Fletes	<i>absent</i>
Frank Mendoza	Yay
Gloria Mora	Yay
Adrienne Benitez	Yay
Alvaro Mora	Yay
Gary Rogokos	Yay
Luis Rosales	<i>absent</i>
Jesus Garcia	Yay
Vincent Montalvo	Yay
Alejandro Palomino	Abstain
Carrie Sutkin	Yay

- 10. FY 2017-2018 Strategic Budget Proposal** (Discussion and Possible Action 1 min. per Speaker).

Roman Gomez said the 2017-2018 budget is not yet on line and would like to go over this budget tonight and it can be submitted tomorrow. Any changes as a result of tonight's meeting the last 2 pages are included with the 2016-2017 budget just to have as a reference. Roman stated that outreach had quite a few expenses last year and some of the funding had to be reallocated to make the budget for this year. NPG – Neighborhood Purpose Grants were \$5000 for last year and it can be looked at to cover those that came up short. Frank Mendoza wants to know what is the new budget they will have this year. Roman addressed Mary Kim, the neighborhood council advocate. Mary stated there is no election this year and says the total will be 42,000. Jesus Garcia says 16%, which is \$6,720.00 should be allocated and Frank Mendoza stated it should be 20%, which will be \$8400.00 for Outreach. Roman Gomez says he believes that outreach had spent \$20,000 last year. Vincent Montalvo says that we really need to see the allocations from last year and Roman agreed because all will be guess work without the numbers in front of them, with Lupe Fletes absence there are no exact numbers and there will have to be a special meeting since the deadline for this submission is the 1<sup>st</sup> of July. Adrienne says it has to be

on the agenda. Mary Kim said to take in to consideration you are representing the entire community. You can submit a drafted one on July 1<sup>st</sup> but it can delay the monies for next fiscal year. When the strategic budget and the plan is submitted they would like to know how the money will be spent. Roman Gomez said the strategic plans were amended last year just to fund some events. Frank Mendoza said that was done the first year. Alvaro Mora asked what the total was for last year’s budget, which was \$37,000 and this year will be \$42,000. A \$5000 difference. Roman Gomez asked Mary Kim for advice since there will be a lot of travelling and would like to ask for a suggestion.

Mary Kim told the board to discuss it tonight at this meeting and submit what they have and the City Department will have to adjust it. Joe Fletes wanted to know if a budget is submitted and then has to be reallocated. Mary Kim cannot answer that question right now and suggests to work with what they have the best they can.

Alvaro Mora moves to allocate the \$5000 for the elections and Adrienne Benitez 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Franks Mendoza’s recommendation to break down the percentage of the money. Alvaro Mora says that the outreach is supposed to be the majority of the budget and he didn’t think 40% was touching that. Roman says that 40% is the largest allocation of the monies and to remember it is in percentile.

Carrie Sutkin questioned, since Lupe Fletes is not present, how was this formatted for the recommended percentages? Frank Mora stated there is a guideline on-line to follow.

Jesus Garcia said that the numbers are not adding up. He is looking at last year’s allocation as a reference.

Roman Gomez reaffirmed Vince Montalvo’s statement, that outreach can be used to help out with the expenditures. Alvaro says his question is if it includes monies for the elections.

Roman Gomez	Yay
Arturo Gomez	<i>absent</i>
Joseph Lovelis	Yay
Lupe Fletes	<i>absent</i>
Frank Mendoza	Abstain
Gloria Mora	Yay
Adrienne Benitez	Yay
Alvaro Mora	Yay
Gary Rogokos	Yay
Luis Rosales	<i>absent</i>
Jesus Garcia	Yay
Vincent Montalvo	Yay
Alejandro Palomino	Abstain
Carrie Sutkin	Yay

Roman says if we were short this year and there was reallocation of money he is recommending to propose \$20200 to the outreach. He wants to just focus on the \$42000 and not on last year’s budget. Carrie Sutkin made a motion for \$20,200.00 for outreach and Joe Lovelis 2<sup>nd</sup> it.

Roman Gomez	Yay
Arturo Gomez	<i>absent</i>
Joseph Lovelis	Yay
Lupe Fletes	<i>absent</i>
Frank Mendoza	Yay
Gloria Mora	
Adrienne Benitez	Yay
Alvaro Mora	Yay
Gary Rogokos	Yay
Luis Rosales	<i>absent</i>
Jesus Garcia	Yay
Vincent Montalvo	
Alejandro Palomino	Abstain
Carrie Sutkin	Yay

Roman wants to look at the budget on category/operations

Gary is leaving the meeting at 8:06 p.m., Gloria Mora has stepped out.

Operations for \$10,380.00 removal of web page, and reduction of post office. Alejandro Palomino asked what the annual cost of hosting on the webpage or the domain name.

Roman Gomez said he cannot remember what the annual fee is off hand and said it is not over \$1000.00.

Jesus Garcia moved to approve the \$10,380 and Adrienne Benitez 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.

Roman Gomez	Yay
Arturo Gomez	<i>absent</i>
Joseph Lovelis	Yay
Lupe Fletes	<i>absent</i>
Frank Mendoza	Yay
Gloria Mora	Yay
Adrienne Benitez	Yay
Alvaro Mora	Yay
Gary Rogokos	<i>absent</i>
Luis Rosales	<i>absent</i>
Jesus Garcia	Yay
Vincent Montalvo	Yay
Alejandro Palomino	Abstain
Carrie Sutkin	Yay

Roman Gomez said NPG (Neighborhood Purpose Grant) and Community Improvement was to be discussed next. Carrie Sutkin wants to know if there is an evaluation of attendance or how is it measured? Roman says basically the numbers showing at the events held was how they got the numbers they are working with. Alejandro Palomino says the real goal of this money is to get the community to get involved in their neighborhood and be a part of the community. Roman stated that Alejandro should show his presence at these events since he has missed many.

Roman Gomez wants the record to show that Gloria has returned and voted YES on the last motion.

Roman Gomez wants to discuss NPG's (Neighborhood Purpose Grants) and the total balance of \$6420.00, Roman wants to allocate \$5000 to NPG's and the remaining to beautification.

Gloria moves to approve the additional \$5000.00 for the NPG's  
 Nine (9) Yes, One abstain (Alejandro), 4 absent.

Roman Gomez	Yay
Arturo Gomez	<i>absent</i>
Joseph Lovelis	Yay
Lupe Fletes	<i>absent</i>
Frank Mendoza	Yay
Gloria Mora	Yay
Adrienne Benitez	Yay
Alvaro Mora	Yay
Gary Rogokos	<i>absent</i>
Luis Rosales	<i>absent</i>
Jesus Garcia	Yay
Vincent Montalvo	Yay
Alejandro Palomino	Abstain
Carrie Sutkin	Yay

Beautification is community improvement. Carrie Sutkin moves to allocate \$1,420 for beautification and Gloria Mora 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.

9-Yes, 4-Absent, 1-Abstain Alejandro

Roman Gomez	Yay
Arturo Gomez	<i>absent</i>
Joseph Lovelis	Yay
Lupe Fletes	<i>absent</i>
Frank Mendoza	Yay
Gloria Mora	Yay
Adrienne Benitez	Yay
Alvaro Mora	Yay
Gary Rogokos	<i>absent</i>
Luis Rosales	<i>absent</i>
Jesus Garcia	Yay
Vincent Montalvo	Yay
Alejandro Palomino	Abstain
Carrie Sutkin	Yay

Roman Gomez is looking at front page for CIS, (Community Impact Statement) and that it will be met 4 times a year. (Quarterly). Alvaro Mora needs clarification. Roman is explaining that the community can give input on where the community stands when



something new is coming into the community. This goes to the City Council File. Vincent Montalvo says this should meet monthly since the more projects coming in, it should be documented. Joe Lovelis stated, it should be up to the CIS team of how they meet, and remember there are more committees that meet as well. Roman Gomez asked the board if they want 12 meeting for CIS.

Meetings includes all the committees in total all the meetings are a total of 60 currently, request for action? When the board acts on a motion and vote on it.

Collaboration (i.e. Partner with Rec Center, LAPD, Mitch O'Farrell office, Community Grants).

Stake Holders, (email list) Roman Gomez wants to leave this at 700.

Page 2 Roman reads:

#### The Big Vision,

Our vision is to empower residents to become more engaged in neighborhood improvement by sharing resources and information regarding issues which directly impact the state of the community. These issues involve environment and land use, involuntary displacement of low-income residents, high density, and the neighborhood's position within the City of Los Angeles. By addressing these matters through a transparent and accessible public platform, we will make government more responsive to local needs.

#### The Big Goals

1. Boosting community awareness of our organization by hosting forums, hearings, and town hall meetings where residents will have a platform upon which they will be able to voice their questions and concerns.
2. Partnering up in conjunction with City, County, State, Federal, School District, and special district entities as well as other community organizations in order to address pressing issues which affect our neighborhood.
3. Forming a Master Calendar available to the public that will list meetings and events that are held by the EVRNC as well as other organizations and groups within the community.

#### The Big Solutions

1. EVRNC will disseminate invitations to government officials to host town hall meetings and other public events where the community's concerns will be addressed in a convenient and transparent manner.
2. EVRNC will reach out to Government leaders to help address ongoing, pressing issues within our community, such as high density, involuntary displacement of low-income residents, health and safety, environmental protection, etc.
3. Setting up a page within our website as well as implementing our bulletin boards to post events for the current month so that members of the community can become more informed and motivated to participate in said events.

Roman reminds everyone these are the goals and needs improvement.

Outreach needs to approve and bring back to the board for approval for Newsletter, Fax Line, Phone Line, Virtual, and email Newsletter Campaign.

Alejandro Palomino wants to know why all the board is not on the letterhead. Roman Gomez will bring that up to Arturo Gomez for next meeting. The Community Bulletin Board is located on the corner and at the end of the River walk. Gary Rogokos is the owner of the property where the Board is on his wall. When events are created flyers can be put there.

Elena (a Public member) wants a job description as far as outreach goes. As to what they can do or needs to be done so that it is not always the same person doing everything.

Roman Gomez thanked Joe Lovelis for the awesome job of posting events and getting things out. Carrie Sutkin reminds the public that it is a community thing. (Elena) with the Public wants improvements of allocation from the Board for the community.

Adrienne Benitez said that this Saturday there is an event at the Park and wants everyone to get there early and set up so that it is not all on Elena.

Roman Gomez wants to know how we can improve outreach. Carrie Sutkin suggested door-to-door. Joe Lovelis says post Flyer, and getting them to the post office and maybe creating post cards. Carrie Sutkin suggests, information about legal aid, rent control, educate people on involuntary displacement. Alvaro Mora made the suggestion on computer literacy and provide a service to the community besides parties. Carrie Sutkin suggests buying a couple of computers to set up at a park class room. Alvaro Mora says there is a community center at the Park but no one has access to it. Alvaro Mora says there is an empty building not in use that can be used for classes for the community.

Roman Gomez asked Alvaro Mora to look into it.

Roman would like to involve more classes and education for the community.

Big Goal, Roman Gomez asks if we have met the goals. If no, why?

Roman said since we did not have the Master Calendar up to date. NO Big Goal was met so it stays the same.

Alejandro Palomino said having the feedback from the community since we need the feedback in order to proceed.

NO forums, no Master Calendar.

How did big budget match the goals? Joe Lovelis made a motion and Alvaro Mora 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion for budget. All Yes and two (2) abstain (Alejandro and Vincent abstain). 4 absent.

Roman Gomez	Yay
Arturo Gomez	<i>absent</i>
Joseph Lovelis	Yay
Lupe Fletes	<i>absent</i>
Frank Mendoza	Yay
Gloria Mora	Yay
Adrienne Benitez	Yay
Alvaro Mora	Yay
Gary Rogokos	<i>absent</i>
Luis Rosales	<i>absent</i>
Jesus Garcia	Yay
Vincent Montalvo	Abstain
Alejandro Palomino	Abstain
Carrie Sutkin	Yay

**11. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items** (1minute per Speaker).

Public comment from Miki Jackson showing the State of California directly through public hearings and public meetings. On open meetings state law allows appointed advisory committees. They are asking for transparency and that the public can come in and be in on the plan. Next meeting on the 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

Adrienne Benitez says someone mentioned Prod? And it no longer exists.

**12. Adjournment and next meeting date** (Discussion and Possible Action).

Meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.